

Colossians - Chapter 4
“Tychicus: An Unsung Hero”
Colossians 4:7-8

Verse 7-8

1. I love the closing remarks of Paul in each of his letters. There are so many wonderful little nuggets that encourage, inspire, and instruct us.
2. The ministry of Christ really depends upon what we could call “unsung heroes” – people who don’t require attention, praise, and accolades.
 - They simply serve their Lord faithfully, behind the scenes. They love Christ, they know He is watching, and that is enough for them.
3. At the end of Paul’s letters, we get to catch a glimpse of some of these unsung heroes that were a blessing to Paul and to the cause of Christ.
4. In these verses, we learn of a man named Tychicus.
 - He is only mentioned seven times in the Bible.
 - There is no record of any great spiritual feats or miracles that he did. He was not an apostle, he was not a pastor, and - to our knowledge - he held no position of any kind in any church.
 - He was simply a man that was a tremendous blessing and help to the apostle Paul. Paul obviously thought the world of Tychicus, and respected him greatly.
5. Tychicus is a great role model for the believer who endeavors to serve Christ. Paul tells us in these two verses what kind of man Tychicus was:
 - **He was a loving man – “a beloved brother”**
 - Some people are difficult to love! Tychicus was easy to love. People who are full of love are easy to love.
 - This word “*beloved*” is the same word the Father used when He said of Christ, “*This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.*”
 - **He was a faithful man – “a faithful minister”**
 - They say the greatest ability is dependability. There is a lot of truth in that. The Bible says that “*it is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful.*” 1 Corinthians 4:2
 - Yet the Bible teaches that a faithful man is hard to find. How true this is! You’ve heard the expression, “He is a fair-weather friend.” In other words, when things are difficult, and the chips are down, you can’t count on him.
 - Tychicus was not this way. He was a faithful minister. Paul could trust him. He had the utmost confidence in this man.
 - Tychicus had the incredible honor of getting to deliver three of Paul’s epistles. He delivered this letter to the Colossians, Paul’s letter to Philemon, and Paul’s letter to the Ephesians (Ephesians 6:21). Can you imagine having one of the apostle Paul’s letters in your hands, and it is **your** responsibility to see that it gets where it needs to go?

- Tychicus was a faithful man. He could be trusted. We should all endeavor to be “a Tychicus.”
- **He was a humble man – “*fellowservant in the Lord*”**
 - Fellowservant – one who serves the same master with another.
 - Tychicus was serving the same Jesus that Paul was serving. This was not a description that Paul used flippantly. He only used it to describe one other man. 1:7
 - We see Tychicus traveling with Paul on his missionary journey in Acts 20:4. We see Tychicus serving with Paul while Paul was in prison in Rome. We see Tychicus traveling for Paul to Colosse, Ephesus, and Crete. Titus 3:12
 - Tychicus didn’t need a fancy title or a prominent position. His attitude was, “What do you need done, Paul? I’ll do it.”
- **He was an honest man – “*All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you.*”**
 - Paul knew that he could trust Tychicus to accurately detail to the Colossians what was going on in his life and ministry. Paul said, “*All my state...*” He knew Tychicus wouldn’t leave out anything or shade the truth.
 - He knew Tychicus wouldn’t make it sound better or worse than it was. He knew he could count on Tychicus to give the Colossians a realistic update on Paul’s ministry and personal condition. Tychicus was a straight shooter. Men like this are so valuable.
 - One of the qualifications of a deacon is that he not be “double-tongued.” This literally means “telling a different story.” Tychicus wasn’t double-tongued. Paul knew he could trust him to speak honestly.
- **He was a compassionate man – “*he might know your estate, and comfort your hearts*”**
 - This is so precious. Paul knew that Tychicus wouldn’t just show up at Colosse as the “big wig.” He knew Tychicus wouldn’t be puffed up, full of himself, making speeches about Paul and himself.
 - He knew that Tychicus would be equally concerned about this church and these believers. Paul knew that Tychicus would be concerned for them and their condition. Paul knew that he would provide encouragement and comfort to them.
 - **Illustration:** Some missionaries come to our church and they only want to talk about themselves, their ministries, and their needs – “What can you do to help me and further what I am doing?” They never give any thought to the condition of our assembly and our people. Others come and are deeply interested in our ministry and desire to be a blessing to us while they are here.
 - Paul knew that Tychicus would exercise love and compassion towards these believers and be concerned for them.
 - Every believer should desire to be a Tychicus. What a beautiful balance of dependability and honesty, yet loving and compassionate.

- Many times people who are diligent and faithful can be very stern and very intolerant of anybody who is not as serious and faithful as they are. They lack love and grace.
 - Other people are very compassionate, but they lack zeal and diligence and can compromise the truth in order to keep from hurting others. God's desire is that we be filled with both – speak the truth, but do so in love and grace. Ephesians 4:15
6. Do you see what I mean now about Tychicus being one of those unsung heroes? You've probably never heard a message or Bible study about him, have you?
 7. Tychicus is one of those low-profile people that sort of fly under the radar, but I can't wait to meet in heaven!