

Dr Mal Couch

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### I. Course Description:

Many have called Philippians and Colossians Paul's most delightful and positive books of inspired scripture. With these two writings, Paul lavishes praise and compliment on his audiences. He succinctly summarizes his most popular doctrines and gives the strongest confirmation of deity of Christ in these two letters. This study hopes to capture the outstanding features within these superb epistles.

### II. Course Objectives

1. To study Christ as our model of humility and service.
2. To understand the key to Philippians: "to live is Christ"
3. To understand the key to Colossians: "the preeminence of Christ"

### III. Course Textbooks

Required Texts:

Thomas Constable, *Thomas Constable's Notes on the Bible*, Available online at  
<http://www.soniclight.com/constable/notes/pdf/philippians.pdf>  
<http://www.soniclight.com/constable/notes/pdf/colossians.pdf>

### IV. Evaluation of Student Performance

1. Class Attendance – for Campus students, due to the concentrated nature of the lectures, one unexcused class absence will reduce final grade by a letter grade. A 2nd unexcused absence will result in an additional research assignment required for a passing grade. A 3rd unexcused absence will result in a failing grade. Online students must listen to the recorded lectures in their entirety and must fulfill all other format-specific requirements in order to receive a passing grade, including occasional interaction with the Advising Professor/Instructor. If the Online student is not responsive to Advising Professor/Instructor communication, the student may become inactive and receive a grade of incomplete on the course (I).
2. Reading Assignments and Accountability – All students will read the required reading as outlined in Section V- Course Outline and Assignments. Each week all students will write a one-page summary over the assigned reading. Each summary will include three elements: (1) a summary of the chapter, (2) an argument stating the chapter's significance pertaining to the overall message of the book; and (3) an identification of major issues in the chapter (from the Biblical text and from the supplemental reading).
3. Research Assignments –
  - a. Research Paper: All students are required to write one 8-10 page paper on one of the major subjects or themes of Philippians and Colossians.
  - b. Course Questions: A half page is required, answering each assigned question. The professor is seeking maturity in the answers--not simply length. The questions are in section VII, of this syllabus.
4. Course Exams – There are no course exams for this course.
5. Online Interaction – Online students will have three online assignments each module: (1) email reading accountability to the Advising Professor/Instructor; (2) email a brief (50-75 words) observation of a key point from that module's lecture; and (3) respond to Advising Professor/Instructor questions and observations.
6. Campus students will submit assignments as directed by the Professor.  
Online Students will submit assignments directly to the Advising Professor/Instructor.

## 7. Scoring Rubric

<u>Assignments</u>	<u>Campus</u>	<u>Online</u>
Attendance or Online Participation	Pass/Fail/Reduction	25
Reading Component (Reading & Accountability)	30 (40 if no exams)	25
Research Component (Papers & Projects)	40 (60 if no exams)	25 (50 if no exams)
Exam Component (if applicable)	30 (if applicable)	25 (if applicable)
<b>Total Points:</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100</b>

## V. Course Outline & Assignments

### Module 1 – Introduction

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### Module 2 – Philippians 1

Reading Component – Read Philippians Chapter 1 and write a one-page summary per instructions in IV. 2, Reading Assignments

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### Module 3 – Philippians 2

Reading Component – Read Philippians Chapter 2 and write a one-page summary per instructions in IV. 2, Reading Assignments.

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### Module 4 – Philippians 3

Reading Component – Read Philippians Chapter 3 and write a one-page summary per instructions in IV. 2, Reading Assignments.

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### Module 5 – Philippians 4

Reading Component – Read Philippians Chapter 4 and write a one-page summary per instructions in IV. 2, Reading Assignments.

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### Module 6 – Colossians 1

Reading Component – Read Colossians Chapter 1 and write a one-page summary per instructions in IV. 2, Reading Assignments.

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### Module 7 – Colossians 2

Reading Component – Read Colossians Chapter 2 and write a one-page summary per instructions in IV. 2, Reading Assignments.

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### Module 8 – Colossians 3

Reading Component – Read Colossians Chapter 3 and write a one-page summary per instructions in IV. 2, Reading Assignments.

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### Module 9 – Colossians 4

Reading Component – Read Colossians Chapter 4 and write a one-page summary per instructions in IV. 2, Reading Assignments.

Research Component – Course Questions and Course Papers are Due.

## **VI. Tyndale General Policies and Procedures**

### **Assignment Format**

All assignments and coursework are to be turned in via student Tyndale email. Students are not required to turn in assignments in hard copy. Students must send any required notes, questions, papers, etc. via email as separate attachments in .doc, docx, or pdf format.

Coursework should be submitted directly to the Professor/Instructor (for Campus and Learning Center students) or to the Advising Professor/Instructor (for Online students). The subject line for all submitted coursework should be formatted as follows to ensure receipt of the material:

<i>Campus Students:</i>	Professor Name, Class # & Name, Student Name, Assignment Title (e.g.: C, Johnson, BIBL2301 Hermeneutics, Smith, Paper #1)
<i>Learning Center Students:</i>	LC Location, Campus Prof. Name, Class # & Name, Student Name (e.g.: Mason, Johnson, BIBL2301 Hermeneutics, Smith)
<i>Online Students:</i>	Online Prof. Name, Class # & Name, Student Name, Assignment Title (e.g.: O, Johnson, BIBL2301 Hermeneutics, Smith, Paper #1)

Electronically submitted coursework will be returned along with a final grade via email after the course has been graded.

### **Assignment Due Dates**

**Campus/Learning Center** students will submit all assignments according to the schedule as outlined in the syllabus. Final assignments are to be submitted no later than the last class period of the semester.

**Online** students will submit all assignments at their own pace, but must maintain interaction with Advising Professor/Instructor throughout the duration of the course.

### **Writing Guidelines**

All research papers and theses are to follow Turabian guidelines as found in Kate L. Turabian *A Manual for Writers of Term Papers, Theses, and Dissertations 7<sup>th</sup> Ed.* (Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2007). All students are required to purchase a copy of *A Manual for Writers* to ensure the proper format. All work is to follow these guidelines:

1. Font & Font Size: Times New Roman, 12 point
2. Double space
3. 1-inch margins (File – Page Setup – Margins)
4. Indent paragraphs .5 inch (Format– Paragraph – Indent left)
5. Page numbers – lower center or upper right –beginning with the first page of text, but not on title page; Arabic numbers only (e.g., 1, 2; not Roman numerals); no other header or footer
6. Title page; then title again on page one (for formal papers)
7. In essay-type papers, ALWAYS write logically, persuasively, focused on the assigned topic; include a succinct introduction that informs the reader concerning the subject of your paper, and a succinct conclusion that summarizes your main points and expresses your resulting conclusion.
8. Use footnotes rather than endnotes, except in dissertation/thesis, where section endnotes are also acceptable.
9. All work should be proofread, as errors in spelling, grammar, and syntax will reduce assignment grade.

### **Plagiarism Policy**

Plagiarism is against Tyndale policy, and any act of plagiarism will result in disciplinary action up to student dismissal from further study at Tyndale. Plagiarism includes but is not limited to quoting materials without proper citing or reference. Cutting and pasting of online and other materials requires proper citing via quotation marks and footnote.

### **Contact**

If you anticipate difficulty in meeting any of these requirements, please contact your Professor (for Campus/Learning Center students) or your Advising Professor/Instructor (Online students) as soon as possible. A complete review of all Tyndale policies and procedures can be found in the [Tyndale Theological Seminary and Biblical Institute Academic Catalog](#).

## **VII. QUESTIONS FOR PHILIPPIANS & COLOSSIANS**

The instructor is looking for a minimum of 1/2 page handwritten per question. It's expected that there may be times the student must research from other commentaries for the answers. Questions with multiple numbers will require longer answers. For example question 3-5 will require 1 1/2 pages and 6-9 will require about 2 pages.

### **PHILIPPIANS**

1. Why does Paul also address the overseers and deacons in 1:1?
2. List from 1:1-11 possible reasons why Paul is so positive about the church at Philippi.
- 3-5. Summarize the background in regard to Paul's imprisonment.
- 6-9. Did Paul expect to die or survive this imprisonment?
- 10-11. Does Paul teach self-esteem? Explain from the verses in Ch. 2,
- 12-13. What should a person be doing for the other person?
14. Define "look out" in 2:4.
- 15-19. Explain clearly the Deity/Humanity of Christ in 2:5-11.
- 20-22. What does Paul mean in 2:12?
- 23-24. What does Paul mean in 2:13?
25. , What does crooked- and ,perverse mean? v. 15.
- 26-27. What were the Judaizers trying to do? Ch. 3.
- 28-29. Compare the Judaizers here with those in Galatians.
30. Apply 4:11-13 to yourself and today's Christian living.

### **COLOSSIANS**

- 31-33. What does Paul want to happen to believers? 1:9-11.
- 34-37. Explain clearly the difference between Positional and Experiential truth.
- 38-39. Explain the Deity and Lordship of Christ as given in 1:15-17.
- 40-44. Explain the "cult" and/or Gnosticism that Paul was blasting in this book.
45. What is the mystery and what does it mean? 1:26.
46. What is the Greek word for struggle in 2:1?
- 47-50. Put in your own words 2:8.
- 51-52. In explaining Christ's Deity, give the meaning of 2:9.
53. What could Paul be referring to in 2:16?
54. What could Paul be referring to in 2:18? 55-57. Explain 3:1-4.
58. Overall, what is Paul trying to say in 3:18-21?
59. What's Paul's point in 3:16?
60. Which book, Philippians or Colossians, spoke to you most directly, and why?