

~EPAPHRAS (62)

(Ep'a-phras) [A contraction of Epaphroditus]

- A faithful minister of Christ who, by preaching the Good News, acquainted the Colossians with the undeserved kindness of God and thus very likely was instrumental in establishing the congregation at Colossae.
- At the time of Paul's first imprisonment, **Epaphras** came to Rome, bringing an encouraging report in regard to the love and steadfastness of the Colossian congregation.
- Since we heard of your faith in connection with Christ Jesus and the love you have for all the holy ones (**Colossians 1:4**)
- Because of the hope that is being reserved for you in the heavens. This hope you heard of before by the telling of the truth of that Good News (**Colossians 1:5**)
- Which has presented itself to you, even as it is bearing fruit and increasing in all the world just as it is doing also among you, from the day you heard and accurately knew the undeserved kindness of God in truth. (**Colossians 1:6**)
- That is what you have learned from **Epaphras** our beloved fellow slave, who is a faithful minister of the Christ on our behalf. (**Colossians 1:7**)
- Who also disclosed to us your love in a spiritual way. (**Colossians 1:8**)
- Evidently he remained in Rome, at least for a time, since Paul, in writing his letter to the Colossians, includes **Epaphras** greetings and assures them that this slave of Jesus Christ always exerts himself in your behalf in his prayers, that you may finally stand complete and with firm conviction in all the will of God.
- As testified by Paul, this beloved fellow slave also put forth great effort in behalf of the brothers in Laodicea and Hierapolis.
- **Epaphras**, who is from among you, a slave of Christ Jesus, sends you his greetings, always exerting himself in your behalf in his

prayers, that you may finally stand complete and with firm conviction in all the will of God. (**Colossians 4:12**)

- I indeed bear him witness that he puts himself to great effort in behalf of you and of those at Laodicea and of those at Hierapolis. (**Colossians 4:13**)
- Then, too, in writing to Philemon, Paul conveys the greetings of **Epaphras** and refers to him as my fellow captive in union with Christ.
- Sending you greetings is **Epaphras** my fellow captive in union with Christ. (**Philemon 1:23**)
- **Epaphras** is not to be confused with **Epaphroditus** from Philippi.