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**Paul's Prison**

**Epistles**

**Essay Questions**

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**MPRISONMENT**


# Essay Questions

1. What significant events preceded Paul’s arrest?

1. What particular circumstances led to Paul’s arrest in Jerusalem?

1. Summarize the events and nature of Paul’s imprisonment in Caesarea.

1. Summarize the events and nature of Paul’s imprisonment in Rome.

1. How did Paul’s imprisonment reveal important insights about God and about Paul’s own ministry?

1. Describe three things that the book of Acts teaches us about Paul’s ministry during his imprisonment.

1. Describe four things we learn from Paul’s letters about his ministry in prison.

1. Summarize three ways in which Paul developed the doctrinal theme of Christ’s kingship over creation.

1. Describe Paul’s doctrine of the believer’s union with Christ. What are some of its implications?

1. Summarize Paul’s explanation of the requirements for ethical living implied by Christ’s kingship and our unity with Christ.

1. What is the main theological truth that underlies the theological unity of Paul’s prison epistles? How does it relate to the themes of Christ’s kingship over creation, our union with Christ, and ethical living?

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**OLOSSIANS**


# Essay Questions

1. Explain the relationship Paul had with the Colossian church as a whole, as well as his relationships with various individuals within the church.

1. Summarize the problems that Greek philosophy, Jewish law and spiritual beings posed for the Colossian church.

1. Why is it important to understand the background of Colossians as we seek to understand Paul’s reason for writing this letter?

1. How did Paul demonstrate to the Colossians that Christ was supreme?

1. How were Christ’s ministers supreme over the false teachers in Colosse?

1. How is Christ’s salvation superior to the plans that the false teachers in Colosse offered?

1. What makes Christian living superior to other approaches to morality?

1. Summarize the structure and content of Colossians.

1. Why is it important to remain loyal to Christ?

1. Why is it important to have a spiritual focus?

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**PHESIANS**


# Essay Questions

1. Why should we believe that Paul wrote Ephesians?

1. Why did Paul write the letter to the Ephesians?

1. In what ways does knowing the background of Paul’s letter to the Ephesians help you better understand the letter he wrote?

1. How does Paul’s teaching about praise and prayer function within the overall structure of the letter?

1. Describe Paul’s teaching in Ephesians regarding the citizenship, administration and code for living within the Kingdom of God.

1. Why and how are Christians to honor our divine King?

1. Why should Christians work to build the kingdom of God?

1. Describe Paul’s teaching about this age and the age to come.

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1. How are Christians to respond to the blessings we receive from Christ our King?

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**HILEMON**


# Essay Questions

1. Who are the three main people involved in the content of the Paul’s letter to Philemon? What is their relationship to one another?

1. What particular problem did Paul seek to resolve by this letter?

1. Summarize Paul’s mediation between Philemon and Onesimus.

1. How does knowing the background of Paul’s letter to Philemon help us understand the way in which Paul wrote?

1. Why did Paul offer thanksgiving in verses 4-7?

1. Describe the six aspects of Paul’s petition found in verses 8-21.

1. Summarize the main features of the letter’s structure and content.

1. How did Paul’s letter anticipate the presence of accountability among Christians?

1. Describe two aspects of compassion that Paul stressed as important in our relations with Christians.

1. How did Paul advocate reconciliation between Onesimus and Philemon?

1. Summarize three main ways in which Paul’s teaching to Philemon applies to the church.

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**HILIPPIANS**


# Essay Questions

1. Describe Paul’s relationship with the Philippian church.

1. Summarize Paul’s previous and current suffering at the time he wrote this letter.

1. What were the conditions in Philippi when Paul wrote to them?

1. How does knowing the background of Philippians help you understand why Paul wrote what he did?

1. In what areas did Paul persevered? By what means did he persevere?

1. What types of exhortations to persevere did Paul offer to the Philippians?

1. In what ways did Paul affirm the Philippians in their perseverance?

1. Summarize the overall structure and content of Philippians, highlighting the key points within each section.

1. Summarize three aspects of the nature of perseverance mentioned in this lesson.

1. Explain three characteristics of the proper mindset of perseverance.

1. In what ways does the church express the ministry of perseverance?

1. How should the modern church apply Paul’s teachings about perseverance?