**Session 11 – The Church Epistles**

* Romans Doctrine – Soteriology (Salvation- grace alone)
* 1 & 2 Corinthians Reproof, Correction, and Instruction
* Galatians Reproof and Correction (regarding works vs grace)
* Ephesians Doctrine – Ecclesiology (the Church)
* Philippians Instruction, Encouragement, Some correction.
* Colossians Doctrine, Correction, Instruction
* 1 & 2 Thessalonians Doctrine – Eschatology (last things, end times).

**1 Corinthians**

* Church Divisions
* Foolishness vs True Wisdom
* Reliance on the Holy Spirit – Natural man does not get it.
* Only one Foundation – Christ
* Major Concerns:
  1. Immorality
  2. Lawsuits
  3. The Lord’s Supper
  4. Marriage
  5. The weak believer
  6. Personal liberty and restraint
* Avoid Israels mistakes:
  1. Idolatry
  2. Immorality
  3. Grumbling
  4. Putting God to the test
* Spiritual Gifts – 9 Charismatic gifts – metaphor for the “body of Christ”.
* Love
* Prophecy
* The Resurrection

**2 Corinthians**

* Paul’s Integrity
* Paul’s Love and Concern requires strict and harsh correction.
* Paul’s Apostolic Ministry – about Jesus, not about Paul.
* All of us will be Judged by Christ for our works, action, words, and ministry.
* Righteous is imputed to us through the cross
* Paul’s Heart
* Sowing abundantly and reaping abundantly
* Paul’s suffering for the Gospel – imprisoned, beaten, shipwrecked, stoned, etc.
* Paul’s Thorn in the Flesh.

**Galatians**

* Romans – grounded in Doctrine.
* Corinthians – guided by Practice.
* Galatians – guarded from Error.

Chapters 1-2 Authenticity of the Gospel.

Chapters 3-4 Superiority of the Gospel.

Chapters 5-6 True Liberty in the Gospel.

**Avoid Compromise**

* Faith vs Works
* Grace vs Law
* Spirit vs Flesh
* Truth vs. Error
* Christianity vs Paganism

**Galatians Key Verses**

* Galatians 2:20 – crucified with Christ.
* Galatians 3:13- redeemed from the curse of the law.
* Galatians 5:22 – the fruit of the Spirit.
* Galatians 6:7 – God is not mocked.

**Ephesians**

* Our Wealth in Christ (chapters 1-3)
  + Chosen
  + Redeemed
  + Gain eternal inheritance.
  + Sealed by the Holy Spirit.
  + Jesus above all – all subjected to Him
  + Ephesians 2:1-8
  + Ephesians 3 – Mystery of the church revealed – Gentiles included.
* Our Walk in Christ (Chapters 4-6)
  + Fivefold leadership gifts: Apostles, Prophets, Evangelists, Pastors, Teachers.
  + Equipping the Saints for the work of ministry.
  + Chapter 4 – put off the old and put on the new
  + Chapter 5 – walk in love, walk as children of the light, expose darkness.
    - Submission -husbands and wives. Slaves and masters.
    - Children and parents.
    - Citizens and government.
    - Christians to Christ.
  + Chapter 6 – armor of God, spiritual warfare

**Philippians**

* Chapter 1 Christ in our Life
  + Phil 1:21 – for me to life is Christ, to die is gain.
* Chapter 2 Our Mind in Christ
  + Phil 2:5 – have this mind in yourself, which was also in Christ Jesus
* Chapter 3 Christ as our Goal in Life
  + Phil 3:7 – whatever was gain for me, I know count as loss for Christ.
* Chapter 4 Christ is our strength.
  + Phil 4:13 – I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

**Other Key Verses**

* Phil 2:9-11 – At the name of Jesus every knew will bow….
* Phil 3:10-14 – to know Christ and the fellowship of His sufferings…
* Phil 4:6 – be anxious for nothing…
* Phil 4:19 – God will supply all your needs…

**Colossians**

* Chapters 1-2 Doctrine, the fullness of Christ in:
  + Creation
  + Redemption
  + Church
  + Over Heresy
* Chapters 3-4 New Life in Christ
  + Seek what is above.
  + Set your mind on eternity.
  + Die to the old ways.
  + Relating to one another.

**Key Verses**

* Colossians 1:13-14 Delivered from dominion of darkness, redemption, forgiveness.
* Colossians 2:14 -15 Cancelled out our certificate of debt, disarmed the rulers…
* Colossians 3:5 Consider your earthly body as dead to sin…
* Colossians 3:12-13 Put on a heart of compassion…

**1 Thessalonians**

Key Verses

* Chapter 1: 9-10 You turned from idols to serve the true God, wait His return.
* Chapter 2: 13 Our message received not as words of men, but the word of God.
* Chapter 4:3 Your sanctification, abstain from sexual immorality.
* Chapter 4:11 A quiet life
* Chapter 4:16-17 The Rapture (*Harpazo*)
* Chapter 5: 1-2 The Lord will come as a “thief in the night.”
* Chapter 5:17 Pray without ceasing.
* Chapter 5:23 Trinity of man – body, soul, and spirit.

**2 Thessalonians**

**Key Verses**

* Chapter 1:4-5 Christin suffering.
* Chapter 2
  + Man of lawlessness
  + Son of Perdition
  + Activity of Satan
  + False signs and wonders
  + Leading many astray
  + Spirit of delusion
  + They have no love of the truth and are deceived.
* Chapter 3: 10-12 Work ethic expressed.