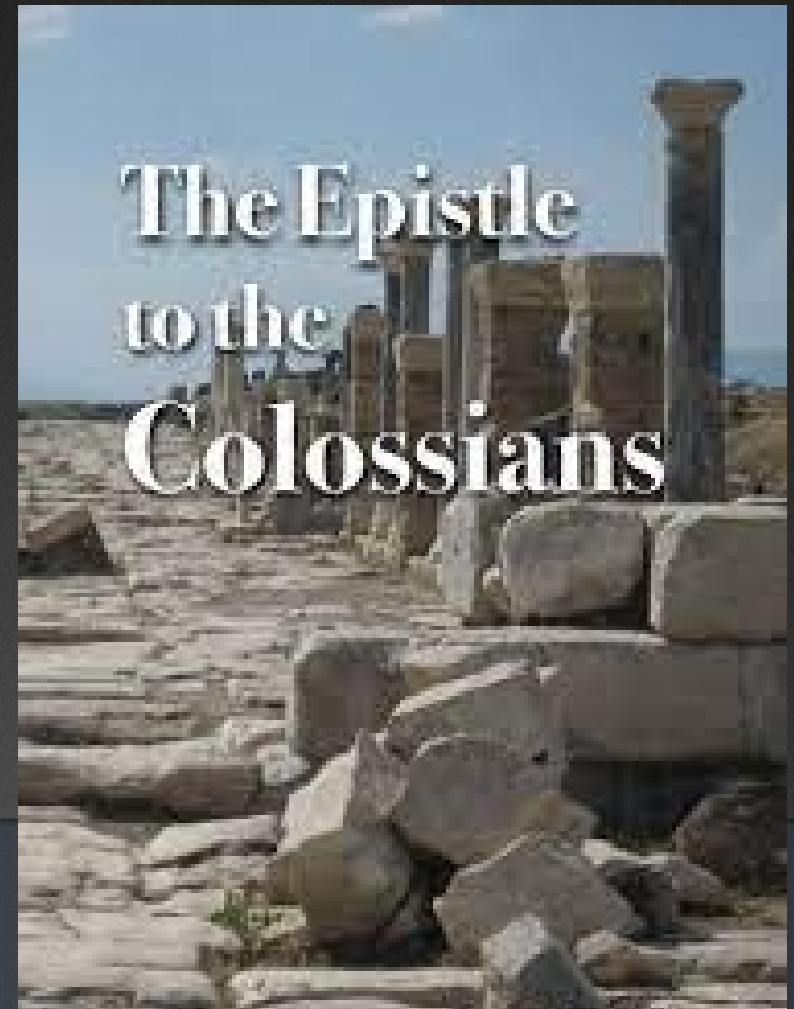
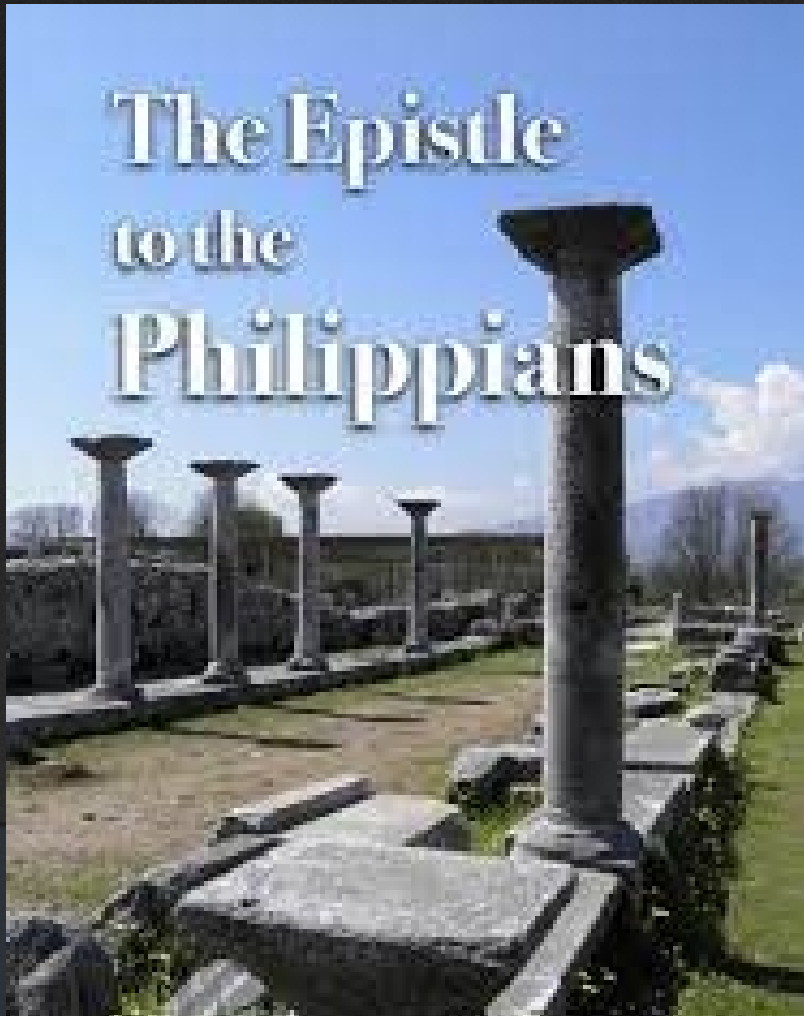


October 9–15

Philippians; Colossians

“I Can Do All Things through Christ Which Strengtheneth Me”



# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

## Php 1:21-24

JST Php 1:21-22

21 But if I live in the flesh, *ye are* the fruit of my labor. Yet what I shall choose I *know* not.

22 For me to live, is *to do the will of* Christ; and to die, is *my* gain.

What is the internal conflict that Paul is facing?

How do you think Paul knew that in the next life he would be with Christ?

1 Nephi 8:12

And as I partook of the fruit thereof it filled my soul with exceedingly great joy; wherefore, I began to be desirous that my family should partake of it also; for I knew that it was desirable above all other fruit.

Mosiah 29:20

Thou art my servant; and I covenant with thee that thou shalt have eternal life; and thou shalt serve me and go forth in my name, and shalt gather together my sheep.

# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

Php 3:3-7

What does Paul say to enforce his statement that worldly accomplishments no longer mean anything to him?

# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

Php 3:8-10

What does it tell us in these verses that Paul has sacrificed for the cause of Christ?

What did Paul receive by giving up everything to know Christ?

## Joseph Smith

“A religion that does not require the sacrifice of all things never has power sufficient to produce the faith necessary [to lead] unto life and salvation.... It was through this sacrifice, and this only, that God has ordained that men should enjoy eternal life.... When a man has offered in sacrifice all that he has for the truth's sake,... he does know, most assuredly, that God does and will accept his sacrifice and offering, and that he has not, nor will not seek his face in vain.” (Lectures on Faith, pg. 58-60)

## Neal A. Maxwell

“President [Brigham] Young said of Jesus, 'Why should we imagine for one moment that we can be prepared to enter into the kingdom of rest with him and the Father, without passing through similar ordeals?' The Apostle Paul noted how this sacred process produces an exclusive cadre - those who have known the 'fellowship of [Christ's] sufferings' (Php 3:10). These are they who will have the greatest capacity for endless service, joy, and happiness.” (“Enduring Well”, Ensign, Apr. 1997)



# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

## Php 3:13-15

What do you think Paul means when he tells us to, “press toward the mark of the prize”?

Why do you think it is important that we, “[forget] those things which are behind”?

## Edward Dube

“To press toward the mark is to faithfully continue on the ‘strait and narrow path which leads to eternal life’ with our Savior and our Father in Heaven.... Paul’s letter to the Philippians, which he wrote when he was bound in prison, is a letter of overwhelming joy and rejoicing and encouragement to all of us, particularly in this difficult time of uncertainty. We all need to take courage from Paul.” (CR, April 2021)

## Howard W. Hunter

“Fix your attention on your goals and don't look back. To dig a straight furrow, the plowman needs to keep his eyes on a fixed point ahead of him. That keeps him on a true course.... If our energies are focused not behind us but ahead of us-on eternal life and the joy of salvation-we assuredly will obtain it.” (The Teachings of Howard W. Hunter, pg. 66)

# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

## Php 3:16-19

What are some reasons that Paul gives for wandering off the straight and narrow?

What advise does Paul give us that will help us stay on the path?

## Neal A. Maxwell

“One sees poignant parallels in Paul's description of his discipleship - 'I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling' (Php 3:14) - and Nephi's description of what disciples must do to remain in the straight and narrow path: 'Ye must press forward with a steadfastness in Christ' (2 Nephi 31:20). Discipleship is not simply surviving and enduring; discipleship is a pressing forward, a creative Christianity. Discipleship does not wait to be acted upon, but instead acts upon men and circumstances to make things better. (Things As They Really Are, pg. 66)

# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

Php 4:1,6-7

What are some of the things that we must be actively doing to progress along the path and avoid wandering off?

## Ulisses Soares

“The Savior invites us to seek Him in every thought and to follow Him with all our heart. This gives us the promise that we can walk in His light and that His guidance prevents the influence of darkness in our life.

“Seeking Christ in every thought and following Him with all our heart requires that we align our mind and desires with His. The scriptures refer to this alignment as ‘stand[ing] fast in the Lord’ (Php 4:1). This course of action implies that we continually conduct our lives in harmony with the gospel of Christ and focus daily on everything that is good. Only then may we achieve ‘the peace of God, which passeth all understanding’ and which will ‘keep [our] hearts and minds through Christ Jesus’ (Php 4:7).” (CR, Oct. 2020)

# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

Col 3:9-12

What does Paul say that let's us know the Colossians had been justified?

What does it mean to be elect?

That are the elect admonished to do?



## Charles W. Penrose

“Now here is the pattern: Those who believe and repent must be taken down into the water and be buried from their old lives, must put off the old man with his deeds, must be buried in the likeness of Christ's burial and raised up again in the likeness of Christ's resurrection.... They come forth to a new birth, they are born of the water.” (JD, 22:82)

The elect are those who love God with all their hearts and live lives that are pleasing to Him. Those who live such lives of discipleship will one day be selected by the Lord to be among His chosen children. (A Topical Guide To The Scriptures of The Church of Jesus Christ of The Latter-day Saints)

D&C 29:7

And ye are called to bring to pass the gathering of mine elect; for mine elect hear my voice and harden not their hearts;

## John Taylor

“We profess, further, to be the elect of God set apart, elected, chosen by him to be his servants to accomplish his work upon the earth—in the first place, to establish correct principles among ourselves, and then to teach these principles to others.” (JD, 8:95)

# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

Col 3:13-17

What are some traits and expectations of the elect of God?

# Justification: Progressing Along the Path

Col 3:1-4

What do you think Paul means by, “your life is hid with Christ in God”?

## Wilford Woodruff

“The Lord has raised up this people to accomplish his purposes.... The Lord says, 'I have called you by my everlasting priesthood, and your lives have been hid with Christ in God'.... Through his son Ephraim God has raised you up and has put this power into your hands, and you hold the keys for the salvation of Israel.... The ten tribes of Israel [will] come to Zion, and they will bow down in the midst thereof, and receive the Priesthood at the hands of the inhabitants of Zion.

“Then what manner of men ought we to be, we, who have been ordained and called, and had such responsibilities placed upon us by the God of heaven? Our lives have been hid with Christ in God, and we are heirs of the eternal Priesthood.” (JD, 18:122)

Next Week:

October 16–22

1 and 2 Thessalonians

“Perfect That Which Is Lacking in Your Faith”

