

Colossians 3:18 –4:1
Series: Colossians: Maturing as a Jesus-Follower
“Christ in Our Earthly Relationships” (Part 2)
11 - 01 - 09

What does understanding the ‘fairness’ of life have to do with the movement toward Christian maturity?

According to N.T. Wright, what is Paul doing with the common Roman “household code” that would have been revolutionary to hear in first century ears?

What is Paul’s instruction to fathers (and mothers) in v. 21 really about?

When it comes to the issue of slavery, what is Paul implicitly teaching about the relationship between circumstances and behavior?

The behavior in life of a slave toward his master is really no different than any Christian’s behavioral response toward others in life. Why?

How does Paul use the issue of inheritance as a motivator for the slaves he is addressing?

Why is Paul addressing the issue of slavery at such length in this passage (especially when compared to the other household relationships)?

- 1) Because likely _____% of all people in the first century world were slaves.
- 2) Because if anyone would have had a hard time with the ‘fairness’ question in the first century world it would have been slaves.
- 3) Because *Onesimus* was traveling with this letter (Col. 4:9). Explain. (See also Philemon 8-16.)

“In the choice between revolution and transformation from within, Christianity chose the second.”

- James Dunn -