

Fellow Workers for the Kingdom of God (II)

Colossians 4:7-11

Review:

God is not just concerned about “big shots” in ministry. In fact most of God’s servants are not well known. The closing of Paul’s letters show us a summary statement, from God’s perspective, of some of Paul’s fellow workers.

Outline Review:

3 summary statements of Paul’s co-workers

- I. Aristarchus: A loyal fellow sufferer (vs.10)
- II. Mark: A restored evangelist
- III. Justus: the perceptive non conformist (vs.11)

Application:

1. Aristarchus was no stranger to hardship. He grew up in Thessalonica, a church born in persecution. He was dragged into the theater in Ephesus, and was part of Paul’s traveling team when he was shipwrecked. When you think of Paul’s accomplishments do you normally think of him doing them by himself? How do these fellow workers change that idea in your mind?
2. Aristarchus stayed with Paul through thick and thin—he was loyal. How can we express loyalty to the ministries we are involved in?
3. Mark’s life is an encouragement to all of us who have messed up at some point. It is a testimony that our God restores people. How did Barnabas have a part in restoring Mark to usefulness?
4. This is the only verse we have that mentions Justus. He was a Jew with a Roman name. His name shows us that he was saved from prejudice and pride in religious traditions. He was willing to go to bat against tradition for the sake of the Gospel. What are some ways that we can follow this example? How can we ensure that our minds are being molded by God’s Word and not tradition or prejudice?

