

**LIVING GODS WILL**

**The Disciple**

**TYCHICUS**



**Saint Tychicus**

# The Disciple **TYCHICUS**

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<b>Born:</b>	<b>Ephesus, Greece</b>
<b>Died:</b>	<b>Unknown</b>
<b>Death:</b>	<b>The time and place are unknown</b>

He was a dear friend to the **Apostle Paul**

He **delivered the epistles** to the Ephesians and Colossians

He was a **pastor** to the churches at **Ephesus and Colosse**

**Tychicus** is one of those Bible characters who probably don't receive the recognition due them. **Tychicus** is only mentioned **five times** in the New Testament, but the ministry he provided was noteworthy.

We first meet **Tychicus** in **Acts 20:4**, during **Paul's** third missionary journey.

Likely **Tychicus** met **Paul** on **Paul's** second missionary journey when **Paul** spent a short time in Ephesus. Their relationship deepened when **Paul** stayed in Ephesus during his third missionary journey.

He is mentioned as one of **Paul's** companions on the way from Corinth to Jerusalem to deliver a gift to the church there (**Romans 15:25-26**).

**Tychicus** represented the Asian churches when **Paul** took the monetary collection to Jerusalem from the largely Gentile churches in Asia and Greece.

We learn that **Tychicus** was a native of Asia, or what we would call Asia Minor today, possibly around Ephesus.

**Tychicus** is called a "**dear brother**" of **Paul's** and a "**faithful servant**" of the Lord's (**Ephesians 6:21**).

In **Colossians 4:7**, **Tychicus** is a "**faithful minister and fellow servant**" who was with **Paul** during his first Roman imprisonment.

He was entrusted to deliver **Paul's** epistles to the Ephesians and Colossians and to bring news of the apostle to those congregations:

**"Tychicus will tell you all the news about me. I am sending him to you for the express purpose that you may know about our circumstances and that he may encourage your hearts"** (**Colossians 4:7-8**).

The Colossian church was attacked by heretics who introduced several add-ons, e.g., asceticism, angel worship, and secret knowledge to the gospel of salvation by grace.

The situation was so dire that church founder, **Epaphras**, traveled to Rome to consult **Paul**.

The result was **Paul's** letter to the Colossian church and his sending the doctrinally-clear **Tychicus** to strengthen true believers at Colosse.

Encouragement is also mentioned as part of **Tychicus's** ministry in **Ephesians 6:22**.

Members of the Ephesus and Colosse churches were young in the faith and needed both guidance and encouragement. **Paul** identified encouragement as a **God-given gift**.

When **Paul** called **Tychicus** an encourager, he meant that **Tychicus** would both teach and exhort church members to greater accomplishments in their walk with Christ.

In traveling to Colossae, **Tychicus** accompanied **Onesimus**, the former slave who was returning to Philemon. No doubt, **Tychicus**, as a good friend of **Paul's**, emphasized the need for grace in receiving **Onesimus** back home (**Philemon 1:17**).

**Paul** intended to send either **Tychicus** or another man to Crete in order to give **Titus** a chance to visit **Paul** (**Titus 3:12**).

**Tychicus** was with **Paul** when he was on house arrest in Rome.

During this two-year period, **Paul** wrote the Letters (around **60 AD**) to the Ephesian, Philippian and Colossian churches, and the personal letter to **Philemon**.

**Paul** trusted **Tychicus** to deliver the letters to the churches at Ephesus and Colosse. In these letters, **Paul** named **Tychicus** a dear brother, fellow minister and faithful servant.

He assured the Ephesians and Colossians that **Tychicus** would tell them about his welfare. (**2 Timothy 4:12**)

Possibly **Paul** didn't want to take letter space to describe his actual living arrangements in Rome or he feared to be explicit about them, lest the letter fall into his enemies' hands.

**Tychicus** had intimate knowledge of **Paul's** circumstances in Rome and could share that knowledge when appropriate.

In both Crete and Ephesus, then, **Tychicus** was an "interim pastor" of sorts, filling in for **Titus** and **Timothy**.

There is an unnamed believer alluded to in **2 Corinthians 8:22**, described as a **“brother who has often proved to us in many ways that he is zealous, and now even more so because of his great confidence in you.”**

Many commentators surmise that this is a reference to **Tychicus**. The description seems to fit.

We may not know much about **Tychicus**, but what we do know is impressive and praiseworthy.

**Tychicus** was a trusted messenger, faithful preacher, and loyal friend. **Paul** placed great confidence in him, sending him to accomplish important works.

**Tychicus** obviously had the ability to minister in a variety of situations, bringing encouragement to those he served.

**Tychicus** surely modeled the quality that all church elders are to possess:

**“He must hold firmly to the trustworthy message as it has been taught, so that he can encourage others by sound doctrine and refute those who oppose it” (Titus 1:9).**

In addition to his other virtues, e.g., encouragement, loyalty, faithfulness, **Tychicus** submitted to **Paul’s** headship and authority in the Christian church.

**Tychicus** went where **Paul** thought his leadership was needed most. **Paul** wrote to **Titus** that he would send either **Tychicus** or **Artemus** to oversee the church on Crete so **Titus** could join him in Rome (**2 Titus 3:12**).

Apparently, **Tychicus** was with **Paul** at the beginning of his second (and last) imprisonment in Rome. During his final Roman imprisonment (**66-67 AD**), **Paul** wrote **Timothy** that he sent **Tychicus** to Ephesus (**2 Timothy 4:12**).

## SUPPORTING SCRIPTURE

**Acts 20:4** And Sopater of Berea accompanied him to Asia--also Aristarchus and Secundus of the Thessalonians, and Gaius of Derbe, and Timothy, and **Tychicus** and Trophimus of Asia.

**Ephesians 6:21** But that you also may know my affairs and how I am doing, **Tychicus**, a beloved brother and faithful minister in the Lord, will make all things known to you; whom I have sent to you for this very purpose, that you may know our affairs, and that he may comfort your hearts.

**2 Timothy 4:12** And **Tychicus** I have sent to Ephesus.

**Titus 3:12** When I send Artemas to you, or **Tychicus**, be diligent to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there.



**Sosthenes, Apollo, Cephas, Tychicus, Epaphroditus, Cæsar and Onesiphorus  
from the Menologion of Basil II**



**Tychicus Missionary Journey with Apostle Paul**