

# Colossians 4:10

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him;)

## Analysis

---

**Aristarchus my fellowprisoner saluteth you, and Marcus, sister's son to Barnabas, (touching whom ye received commandments: if he come unto you, receive him;)** Paul sends greetings from companions. Aristarchus, "my fellowprisoner" (ho synaichmalōtos mou, ὁ συναιχμάλωτός μου), shares Paul's imprisonment—whether literally imprisoned or metaphorically as prisoner of Christ's service (Romans 16:7). Aristarchus exemplifies sacrificial friendship, accompanying Paul through travels and trials (Acts 19:29; 20:4; 27:2).

Marcus (John Mark) receives special mention with relational identification: "sister's son to Barnabas" (Barnabas was Paul's former ministry partner). Mark had deserted Paul's first missionary journey (Acts 15:37-39), causing sharp contention between Paul and Barnabas. This greeting indicates reconciliation—Paul now commends Mark, showing restored relationship. The parenthetical instruction to receive Mark warmly suggests his coming visit required advance encouragement given past failures.

## Historical Context

---

John Mark authored the second gospel. His restoration after early failure demonstrates grace's transforming power and mature leaders' willingness to forgive and restore failing workers. Paul and Barnabas's sharp separation over Mark (Acts 15:39) eventually healed, with Paul later calling Mark "profitable to me

for the ministry" (2 Timothy 4:11). This models biblical conflict resolution and restoration of failed workers.

## Related Passages

---

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. Who has failed in ministry or relationships that you need to forgive and restore like Paul restored Mark?
2. How do you respond to others' past failures—permanent disqualification or gracious restoration opportunity?
3. What role does reconciliation play in your Christian relationships and church community?

## Interlinear Text

---

Ἀσπάζεται	ὑμᾶς	Ἀρίσταρχος	ὁ	συναιχμάλωτός	μου	καὶ
saluteth	you	Aristarchus	G3588	fellowprisoner	my	and
G782	G5209	G708		G4869	G3450	G2532
Μάρκος	ὁ	ἀνεψιὸς	Βαρναβᾶ	περὶ	οὗ	ἐλάβετε
Marcus	G3588	sister's son	to Barnabas	(touching	whom	ye received
G3138		G431	G921	G4012	G3739	G2983
ἐντολάς	ἐάν	ἔλθῃ	πρὸς	ὑμᾶς	δέξασθε	αὐτόν
commandments	if	he come	unto	you	receive	him
G1785	G1437	G2064	G4314	G5209	G1209	G846

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Acts 19:29** (Parallel theme): And the whole city was filled with confusion: and having caught Gaius and Aristarchus, men of Macedonia, Paul's companions in travel, they rushed with one accord into the theatre.

**2 Timothy 4:11** (Parallel theme): Only Luke is with me. Take Mark, and bring him with thee: for he is profitable to me for the ministry.

**Acts 20:4** (Parallel theme): And there accompanied him into Asia Sopater of Berea; and of the Thessalonians, Aristarchus and Secundus; and Gaius of Derbe, and Timotheus; and of Asia, Tychicus and Trophimus.

**Acts 12:12** (Parallel theme): And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.

**Acts 27:2** (Parallel theme): And entering into a ship of Adramyttium, we launched, meaning to sail by the coasts of Asia; one Aristarchus, a Macedonian of Thessalonica, being with us.

**Philemon 1:24** (Parallel theme): Marcus, Aristarchus, Demas, Lucas, my fellowlabourers.