

# Colossians 4:7

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellowservant in the Lord:

## Analysis

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**All my state shall Tychicus declare unto you, who is a beloved brother, and a faithful minister and fellowservant in the Lord.** Paul introduces Tychicus, letter carrier and personal representative. "All my state" (ta kat' eme panta, τὰ κατ' ἐμὲ πάντα) refers to Paul's personal circumstances. "Shall Tychicus declare" (gnōrisei hymin Tychikos, γνωρίσει ὑμῖν Τυχικός) indicates Tychicus would verbally supplement the written letter with personal details.

Three descriptions commend Tychicus: "beloved brother" (agapētos adelphos, ἀγαπητὸς ἀδελφός) emphasizes affection and spiritual kinship; "faithful minister" (pistos diakonos, πιστὸς διάκονος) stresses reliability in service; "fellowservant in the Lord" (syndoulos en Kyriō, σύνδουλος ἐν Κυρίῳ) indicates shared slavery to Christ. These commendations validate Tychicus's authority to represent Paul and encourage Colossians to receive him warmly.

## Historical Context

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Letter delivery in the ancient world required trusted couriers traveling dangerous routes. Tychicus apparently carried multiple letters simultaneously (Ephesians 6:21-22; possibly Philemon). Such couriers often provided oral elaboration beyond written content, answering questions and applying apostolic teaching to specific situations. Tychicus's faithful service enabled Paul's continued ministry despite imprisonment.

## Related Passages

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**Hebrews 11:1** — Definition of faith

**Romans 1:17** — The righteous shall live by faith

**1 Corinthians 13:4** — Characteristics of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. Who serves faithfully in unglamorous roles—like letter carriers—enabling ministry but receiving little recognition?
2. How do you receive and honor faithful servants God sends, even if they lack prominent titles?
3. What qualities make someone 'faithful' in ministry—reliability, character, perseverance, or all three?

## Interlinear Text

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Tὰ κατ' ἐμὲ πάντα γνωρίσει ὑμῖν Τυχικὸς ὁ  
G3588 state my All declare unto you Tychicus G3588  
G2596 G1691 G3956 G1107 G5213 G5190

ἀγαπητὸς ἀδελφὸς καὶ πιστὸς διάκονος καὶ σύνδουλος  
who is a beloved brother and a faithful minister and fellowservant  
G27 G80 G2532 G4103 G1249 G2532 G4889

ἐν κυρίῳ  
in the Lord  
G1722 G2962

## Additional Cross-References

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**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.

**2 Timothy 4:12** (Parallel theme): And Tychicus have I sent to Ephesus.

**Titus 3:12** (Parallel theme): When I shall send Artemas unto thee, or Tychicus, be diligent to come unto me to Nicopolis: for I have determined there to winter.

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