

The Book of Philippians

Background: Acts 16
2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 9:1-4

Greeting/Closing: Philippians 1:1, 2
Philippians 4:21-23

I. Paul Personally Reassures the Philippians 1:3-26

A. With affection and confidence 1:3-8

1. Paul's affection for the Philippians
1:3, 4
1:7a
1:8
2. Paul's appreciation for his partnership with them
1:5
1:7b
1:5; 2:1; 3:10; 4:14
3. Paul's confidence that God will complete the salvation of the Philippians 1:6

B. With prayer 1:9-11

1. That your love may abound
 - a. in knowledge
 - b. in depth of insight, so that:
 - (i.) you may discern what is best
 - (ii.) you may be pure and blameless cf 2:14
 - (iii.) you may be filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ
2. To the glory and praise of God

- C. With comfort and insight concerning his situation 1:12-26
1. Because of his situation the gospel is advancing 1:12-18
 - a. Effect on the whole palace guard
 - b. Effect on many brothers
 - (i.) encouraged to speak the word of God fearlessly
 - (ii.) some do so in love, others in envy
 - (iii.) Paul rejoices that Christ is preached
 2. With the help of prayers and the Holy Spirit, Paul is confident that: 1:19-26
 - a. He will be delivered (from or through)
 - b. He will not be ashamed but will exalt Christ
 - c. He is willing to live or die for Christ
 - d. God will continue to allow him to minister to the Philippians

II. Paul Urges the Philippians

- A. To stand up for the Gospel in the face of suffering 1:27-30
1. The conduct of citizens
 2. The combat of soldiers
 3. The courage to accept the gift of suffering
- B. To be united in Christlike humility and obedient service 2:1-11
1. Make my joy complete 2:1-4
 - a. Since you have encouragement from being united in Christ
Since you have comfort from his love
Since you have fellowship with the Spirit
Since you have tenderness and compassion
 - b. By being like minded
Same love
One in spirit and purpose
No selfishness or vain conceit
In humility
Looking out for one another

2. Let your attitude be the same as that of Christ Jesus 2:5-8
 - a. Jesus, being in very nature God
 - (i.) did not consider equality with God something to cling to
 - (ii.) made himself nothing
 - (a.) taking the very nature of a servant
 - (b.) being made in human likeness
 - b. Jesus, being found in the appearance of a man
 - (i.) humbled himself
 - (ii.) became obedient to death on a cross
 3. Therefore, God:
 - a. Exalted him to the highest place
 - b. Gave him the name above every name
 - (i.) every knee shall bow
 - (ii.) every tongue shall confess
 - (iii.) to the glory of God the Father
- C. To work out their salvation as shining light in a dark world 2:12-18
1. Continue to obey
 2. Work out your salvation
 3. How: Do everything without complaining or arguing
Become blameless and pure
Be without fault in a depraved generation
Shine like stars in the universe

III. Paul Personally Commends Timothy and Epaphroditus 2:19-30

- A. Paul's purpose in sending Timothy 2:19-24
- B. Paul's purpose in sending Epaphroditus 2:25-30

IV. Paul Urges the Philippians to Rejoice in the Lord 3:1 - 4:9

- A. Watch out for the Judaizers. Put no confidence in the flesh:
It will not produce joy 3:1-7

- B. The most important thing 3:8-17
 - 1. To know Christ better
 - 2. To become more like him
 - 3. To press on for the prize for which we are called
 - a. Think with maturity
 - b. Live up to what we have obtained
 - c. Follow those who live up to the pattern

- C. Watch out for the enemies of the cross. Going after the lust of the flesh will not produce joy.
 - 1. Their lifestyle and destiny
 - 2. Our lifestyle and destiny

- D. Stand firm; stand together in the Lord 4:1-3
 - 1. A plea to brothers and dear friends
 - 2. A plea to Euodia, Syntyche, and the loyal yokefellow

- E. Rejoice in the Lord always 4:4-9
 - 1. Let your self-control be evident
 - 2. Because the Lord is near, do not be anxious
 - 3. Present your requests to God
 - a. By prayer and petition
 - b. With thanksgiving

Result: The Peace of God

- which transcends all understanding
- will guard your hearts and minds

- 4. Think about the right things
- 5. Do the right things

Result: The God of Peace will be with you

V. Paul Personally Thanks the Philippians for their Financial Help 4:10-20

- A. The thank you 4:10
- B. The secret of being content 4:11-13
- C. The commendation 4:14-18
- D. The promise 4:19
- E. The praise