

**A Personal Note**  
Philippians 1:1-8

The letter to the church in Philippi is short, but it covers many Christian doctrines.

- The person and work of Jesus Christ
- Justification by faith
- The Second Coming of Christ
- Sanctification

Acts 16 details the Apostle Paul's first visit to Philippi.

- There, by the riverside, he meets Lydia, a successful and wealthy seller of purple cloth, and he leads her to faith in Christ.
- Later he casts a demon out of a young girl and for this he is thrown in jail.
- While in jail, he leads the jailer to Christ and baptizes him and his family.
- From there he leaves town and travels to Berea, Thessalonica, and Athens.

From that first meeting at the riverside, a church was born. Since Paul founded the church, and since he had personally led the charter members to Christ, they looked to him with great care and love. A bond between Paul and the Philippians was formed and would not be broken.

10 years later Paul found himself in prison in Rome awaiting trial before Caesar. When the Philippian church heard about his imprisonment, they sent a monetary gift for Paul's personal needs. Paul sent back a brief thank-you note to the church. That brief note is the book of Philippians.

**Philippians 1:3-8**

*"<sup>3</sup> **I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,** <sup>4</sup> **always** in **every prayer** of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup> **because of your partnership in the gospel** from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.*

Verse 6, "...he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion ..."  
Is this not one of the greatest verses in the Bible! What God starts he always finishes.

Since God isn't finished, there's great hope for the future.

- What is incomplete will be made complete
- What is unfinished will be finished
- What is lacking will be made full
- What is partial will be made whole
- What is broken will be fixed
- What is hurt will be healed
- What is weak will be made strong
- What is temporary will be made permanent