



# Philippians

*THE HOPE OF JOY*



# Philippians: The Hope of Joy



# Background of Paul's Letter to the Philippians:

- City of Philippi founded in 356 B.C.







# Background of Paul's Letter to the Philippians:

- Church at Philippi planted approx. 52 A.D.
- Letter most likely written by Paul, around 62 A.D., from prison in Rome
- Paul's second missionary journey  
[Acts 16:9-40]



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“In such a time it is a profound comfort to know that although all things seem to be shaken, one thing is not: God is not shaken... God is God whether we recognize it or not. But it comforts us and infuses strength into our faltering spirits to rest on that truth.”

- Elisabeth Elliot

*Facing the Death of Someone You Love*



# Philippians: The Hope of Joy

Philippians 1:12-26



“As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.”

- *Philippians* 1:13 [NIV]



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Philippians 1:12-26



“Things put into the furnace properly can be shaped, refined, purified, and even beautified. This is a remarkable view of suffering, that if faced and endured with faith, it can in the end only make us better, stronger, and more filled with greatness and joy.



“Suffering, then, actually can use evil against itself. It can thwart the destructive purposes of evil and bring light and life out of darkness and death.”

- Timothy Keller

*Walking with God through Pain and Suffering*



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Philippians 1:12-26



“As Jesus’ disciple, I am his apprentice in kingdom living. I am learning from him how to lead my life in the Kingdom of the Heavens as he would lead my life if he were I. It is my faith in him that led me to become his disciple.



“My confidence in him simply means that I believe that he is right about everything: that all that he is and says shows what life is at its best, what it was intended by God to be. ‘In him was life and the life was the light of men.’ [John 1:4 NAS]”

- Dallas Willard

*How Does the Disciple Live?*



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Philippians 1:12-26



“Indeed he was ill, near to death. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.”

- *Philippians 2:27* [ESV]



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Philippians 1:12-26



The Apostle Paul shows us  
in both word and deed:

1. Clarity of life's great aim: Christ  
and his glory.



“The way we display the supreme worth of Jesus in our lives is by treasuring Christ above all things, and then making life choices that show that our joy is not finally in things or even in other people, but in Christ.”

- John Piper



The Apostle Paul shows us  
in both word and deed:

2. Concern for the progress and joy of others.



“The Gospel deals, not just with our alienation from God, but the Gospel also deals with our sinful preoccupation with ourselves and our lack of loving concern for other people. And one of the marks of the Gospel is that Christians are united in their care for one each other.”

- David Jackman



The Apostle Paul shows us  
in both word and deed:

2. Concern for the progress and joy of others.



“God uses suffering to purge sin from our lives, strengthen our commitment to Him, force us to depend on grace, bind us together with other believers, produce discernment, foster sensitivity, discipline our minds, spend our time wisely, stretch our hope, cause us to know Christ better, make us long for truth, lead us to repentance of sin, teach us to give thanks in time of sorrow, increase faith, and strengthen character.”

- Joni Eareckson Tada, Steven Estes

*When God Weeps: Why Our Sufferings Matter to the Almighty*



The Apostle Paul shows us  
in both word and deed:

3. Confidence in the providential care of God.



“Prayer is the way to experience a powerful confidence that God is handling our lives well, that our bad things will turn out for our good, our good things cannot be taken from us, and the best things are yet to come.”

- Tim Keller  
*Prayer*



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