

CHAPTER 4 (All)

¹ Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.

- my brothers
- whom I love and long for
- my joy and crown –
 - “Crown”
 - Greek has two words for “Crown”
 - Diadema ([Strong's #1238](#)) of a king (The beast [Rev 13:1](#); and Christ [Rev 19:12](#))
 - Stephanos – [στέφανος](#); stéphanos; stef'-an-os ([Strong's #4735](#)) – Not a kingly or imperial crown. This was the kind that symbolized victory in the Greek games, military valor (Sometimes of conquering kings, but for achievement). Stephanos meant "wreath" or "garland" not the sign of royalty.
 - Given to guests at joyful banquets
 - The Philippians were Paul's sign of Joy and Victory!!
 - In glory, we will radiate joy when we see folks we shared the gospel with down here!
 - If we give to the church, a mission, the message of Jesus to a neighbor, we will probably have people let us know.
 - We will be pleasantly blessed!! στέφανος

Exhortation, Encouragement, and Prayer

² I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord.

- Euodia and Syntyche
 - Euodia – *prosperous journey, success*;¹
 - Syntyche – *fortune/ fortunate*²
- agree in the Lord – Be of the same mind! Play on words?!

¹ <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/Euodia>

² <https://www.biblegateway.com/resources/encyclopedia-of-the-bible/Syntyche>

³ Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

- true companion – Some think this is the jailer from [Acts 16:25-34](#)
 - probably not. He is not identified –
 - [QUOTE] “Where the Bible speaks, we speak; where the Bible is silent, we are silent” – Thomas Campbell
 - This became a slogan of the USA’s Restoration Movement in the 19th century.
- labored side by side with me in the gospel
 - The work of the church sometimes leads people into disagreement with each other.
 - We should focus on Christ
 - [Quote] “In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, in all things love/charity”
 - whose names are in the book of life.
 - [Luke 10](#), Jesus counsels the 72 to rejoice not in the demons fleeing, but that they were in the book of life!
 - *¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”*
 - It is possible that every person had their name in this book.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice.

⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand;

- reasonableness – Yielded Ness
- The Lord is at hand – He is near! Not far from any one of us.
 - He is not in his PJ’s, sipping coffee with a remote in his hand. He is dressed at the door, ready to come meet us in the air! [1 Thess 4:16-17](#)
 - *¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are*

left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord.

- He is also with us now!
 - [Proverbs 5:21](#) –*For a man's ways are before the eyes of the Lord, and he ponders all his paths.*

⁶do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

- anxious about anything –**Author Unknown**

A faithful pastor had been on a long flight from one place to another. The first warning of the approaching problems came when the sign on the airplane flashed on: Fasten your seat belts. Then, after a while, a calm voice said, “We shall not be serving the beverages at this time as we are expecting a little turbulence. Please be sure your seat belt is fastened.”

As he looked around the aircraft, it became obvious that many of the passengers were becoming apprehensive. Later, the voice of the announcer said, “We are so sorry that we are unable to serve the meal at this time. The turbulence is still ahead of us.”

Then the storm broke. The ominous cracks of thunder could be heard even above the roar of the engines. Lightening lit up the darkening skies, and within moments that great plane was like a cork tossed around on a celestial ocean. One moment the airplane was lifted on terrific currents of air; the next, it dropped as if it were about to crash.

The pastor confessed that he shared the discomfort and fear of those around him. He said, “As I looked around the plane, I could see that nearly all the passengers were upset and alarmed. Some were praying. The future seemed ominous and many were wondering if they would make it through the storm.

Then, he suddenly saw a little girl.

Apparently the storm meant nothing to her. She had tucked her feet beneath her as she sat on her seat; she was reading a book and everything within her small world was calm and orderly. Sometimes she closed her eyes, then she would read again; then she would straighten her legs, but worry and fear were not in her world. When the plane was being buffeted by the terrible storm when it lurched this way and that, as it rose and fell with frightening severity, when all the adults were scared half to death, that marvelous child was completely composed and unafraid.” The pastor could hardly believe his eyes.

It was not surprising therefore, that when the plane finally reached its destination and all the passengers were hurrying to disembark, the pastor lingered to speak to the girl whom he had watched for such a long time. Having commented about the storm and behavior of the plane, he asked why she had not been afraid.

The child replied, “Cause my Daddy’s the pilot, and he’s taking me home.”³

- “There are many kinds of storms that buffet us:
Physical, Mental, Financial, Domestic, and...many other storms can easily and quickly darken our skies and throw our plane into apparently uncontrollable movement. We have all known such times, and let us be honest and confess, it is much easier to be at rest when our feet are on the ground than when we are being tossed about a darkened sky. Let us remember... Our Father is the Pilot... He is in control and taking us home. So, Don’t Worry.”⁴
- Similar to the [Mark 4](#) storm
- Going down the hill in Pinnacle, NC, story
 - I was up all night with worry.
 - The rain was getting worse!
 - Anxiety can cripple us. He calms us!
- Be anxious for **no**-thing, in **every**-thing – Pray
- in everything – pray!

⁷ And the **peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

- **peace of God** – we have peace with God already, because of Christ!
 - **The Peace of God** goes beyond our understanding.
 - [Proverbs 3:5-6](#) – ⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.
- Matthew 6:25-34 – ²⁵ *“Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing?”* ²⁶ *Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they?”* ²⁷ *And which of you by being anxious can add a single hour to his span of life?*^[a] ²⁸ *And why are you anxious about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin,* ²⁹ *yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.* ³⁰ *But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is alive and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?”* ³¹ *Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’* ³² *For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all.* ³³ *But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

³ <https://inspire21.com/dont-worry/>

⁴ <https://inspire21.com/dont-worry/>

- *³⁴ “Therefore do not be anxious about tomorrow, for tomorrow will be anxious for itself. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.”*
- If we really believe that He is at hand, we can have Peace!

⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

- What would happen if we **filtered** our media consumption with this?



- Put this on a sticky on your computer!
 - whatever is true – operate in the truth and God will honor you!
 - Proverbs 6:17-19 – There are six things that the Lord hates, seven that are an abomination to him: ¹⁷ haughty eyes, **a lying tongue**, and hands that shed innocent blood, ¹⁸ a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil, ¹⁹ **a false witness who breathes out lies**, and one who sows discord among brothers.
 - whatever is honorable, – Websters: deserving of respect or high regard: deserving of honor
 - whatever is just, Websters: acting or being in conformity with what is morally upright or good : righteous
 - whatever is pure,
 - whatever is lovely,
 - whatever is commendable,
 - if there is any excellence,
 - if there is anything worthy of praise,
- Just like the armor of God (Ephesians 6:13-18), all points to Jesus

- Just like the Love chapter in ([1 Corinthians 13:4-7](#)), all points to God
- **think about these things** – Thayer: [λογίζομαι](#); logízomai; log-id'-zom-ahee
 - to reckon, count, compute, calculate, count over
 - to take into account, to make an account of
 - metaph. to pass to one's account, to impute
 - a thing is reckoned as or to be something, i.e. as availing for or equivalent to something, as having the like force and weight
 - to number among, reckon with
 - to reckon or account
 - to reckon inward, count up or weigh the reasons, to deliberate
 - This word deals with reality. If I "logizomai" or reckon that my bank book has in it, it has in it. Otherwise, I am deceiving myself. **This word refers to facts, not suppositions.**⁵ :

⁹ What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things,

and the **God of peace** will be with you.

- practice these things – “Do”
- **God of peace** – Before it was “Peace of God” [vs.7](#), now it’s God of Peace!
 - When someone is the “god” of something, he has dominion over it.
 - God is the standard sovereign of peace
- **With YOU!** Emanuel!

God's Provision

¹⁰ I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity.

¹¹ Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned, in whatever situation **I am, to be content.**

- I am, to be content – Paul learned this lesson from knowing Christ, not in a book about happiness.

⁵ <https://www.studylight.org/lexicons/eng/greek/3049.html>

- Rockefeller quote- one more – John D. Rockefeller, Sr., was one of the richest men in history. According to Oz Guinness, he was once asked how much money it takes to make a man happy. Rockefeller's famous reply was, "Just a little bit more."⁶



- Tom Brady was asked on [60 Minutes](#). When asked which ring he liked best, he replied, "The next one."

- [QUOTE]"I put the senior wrangler, and the most learned of our Cambridge men in the lowest form, compared with this learned apostle; for this surely is the highest degree in humanities to which a man can possibly attain, to have learned in whatsoever state he is, to be content." - March 25th, 1860, by the REV. C.H.

SPURGEON

- The **Senior Wrangler** is the top mathematics undergraduate at the [University of Cambridge](#) in England, a position which has been described as "the greatest intellectual achievement attainable in Britain".
- [1 Tim 6:6](#) – *Contentment with godliness is great gain*

¹² I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need.

¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

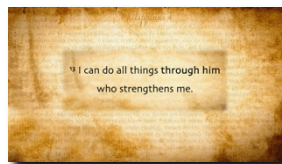
- learned the secret –
- All things through Him who strengthens me – The context is that when Paul was fully supplied or when he suffered and was in need, it was the strength of Christ, not his own, that brought him through, and that made him content.
 - Whether rich or poor, honored or dishonored, Paul can do all things through Christ.
 - [Matthew Henry](#) – The word in the original is a participle of the present tense, *en to endynamounti me Christo*, and denotes a present and continued act; as if he had said, "Through Christ, who is strengthening me, and does continually strengthen me; it is by his constant and renewed strength I am enabled to act in everything; I wholly depend upon him for all my spiritual power."
 - [John 15:5](#) – *⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.*
 - [Colossians 1:29](#) ²⁹ For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

⁶ <https://breakpoint.org/just-little-bit/>

- Context! – This is not a tagline for climbing Mt. Everest, or for me setting a new personal bench press record. Even though that is a good starting point! (Christ's strength).
 - In what God is calling me to do, I can do these things because He will strengthen me!
 - The “All things” must have the complete context: “All things through Him”
 - I can't apply this as if it's magical and say, “I can do all things, so I will win the lottery, or I can become a billionaire.”
 - If he calls and wills to then fine, but contentment with whatever He allows is the overall context, through Him!
 - [John 14:14; 16:23](#) – “...**Ask anything in my name...**”

¹³ I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

- Paul wasn't content with his circumstances; he was content “in” them!
 - In suffering and need, **can** we find contentment in Christ?
 - Can we find the strength for the journey, to carry on?
 - Can we find hope? – Yes!
 - This also applies to abundance!
 - Can we find the strength to complete his work/call when supplied abundantly, or even overloaded with blessings?



¹⁴ Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble.

- He has been in trouble since the Damascus Road!

¹⁵ And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left

Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only.

¹⁶ Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again.

- Giving to the Lord and his work has eternal implications!

- What investment can you make now that will pay dividends for eternity?

¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit.

- Your credit, your account. God is way better than QuickBooks! He remembers!
 - [1 Corinthians 15:58](#) – ⁵⁸ Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.
 - [Matthew 6:19-20](#)– ¹⁹ *“Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.”*

¹⁸ I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.

- I have received full payment and more. I am well supplied–
 - The prison system was not like ours today. Family or friends are needed to help provide for the incarcerated.
 - The Philippians were not especially well off financially – **2 Cor 8:1-8** We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, ² for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their **extreme poverty** have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. ³ For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, ⁴ begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints— ⁵ and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us.

¹⁹ And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

²⁰ To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

- supply every need – not want but every need!
- Remember back in Brick, the fridge and the cupboard were full! The realization that God was supplying what we needed.
 - The electricity was cut off when we got home from a tour! Yikes! I guess we didn't need TV that night!

- [READ] [2 Kings 4:1-7](#)

Final Greetings

²¹ Greet every saint in Christ Jesus.

- saint in Christ Jesus – Paul’s view was that if we are in Christ, then we are “Saints”
 - Man does not decide who is a saint; God does by placing us in Christ!

The brothers who are with me greet you.

²² All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household.

- Caesar's household – This is one of the most prominent places in Rome- Caesar’s household, and believers are there!
 - This doesn’t mean that Caesar’s family or kin were saved.
 - The administration of the empire happened from Caesar’s household.
 - There are believers in the **White House** & places of power today!
 - The Executive Office of the President is an adaptable instrument of presidential power. Today, the EOP employs approximately 1,800 people, most of whom work in the Eisenhower Executive Office Building, located next to the West Wing on the White House grounds.⁷
 - As of July 1, 2025, there are **404 staff** members in the Trump White House. This number can be broken down into the following:
 - **374** employees.
 - 30 detailees from other government agencies. [[1](#)]
 - Breakdown of White House staff
 - The total count of White House employees includes a variety of roles, as indicated in the publicly released salary report.
 - If "White House" is defined more broadly to include the entire Executive Office of the President (EOP), which works with the president but outside the immediate White House office, the number of employees is much larger. The EOP comprises several offices, including the Office of Management and Budget and the National Security Council, with a total staff of approximately **1,800** personnel.⁸
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⁷ <https://govfacts.org/federal/eop/who-works-in-the-white-house/>

⁸ [Google answer to Whitehouse question](#)

23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

1:6 – 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.

1:21 – For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

1:27 – Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ...

2:5 – Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,

2:6-10 – Christ hymn/ kenosis passage

2:11 – and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father

2:12 – work out your own salvation with fear and trembling,

2:13 – for it is **God who works** in you,

2:14 – Do all things without grumbling or disputing

2:19-30 – Timothy and Epaphroditus



3:1 – ...**rejoice in the Lord**

3:3 – ...put no confidence in the flesh

3:7 – But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of **Christ**.

3:10-11 – that I may know him and **the power of his resurrection**, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

3:14 – I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of **God in Christ Jesus**.

3:20 – **But our citizenship is in heaven**, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord **Jesus Christ**,

4:1 – ...my joy and crown, stand firm thus **in the Lord**,

4:4 – **Rejoice in the Lord** always; again I will say, rejoice.

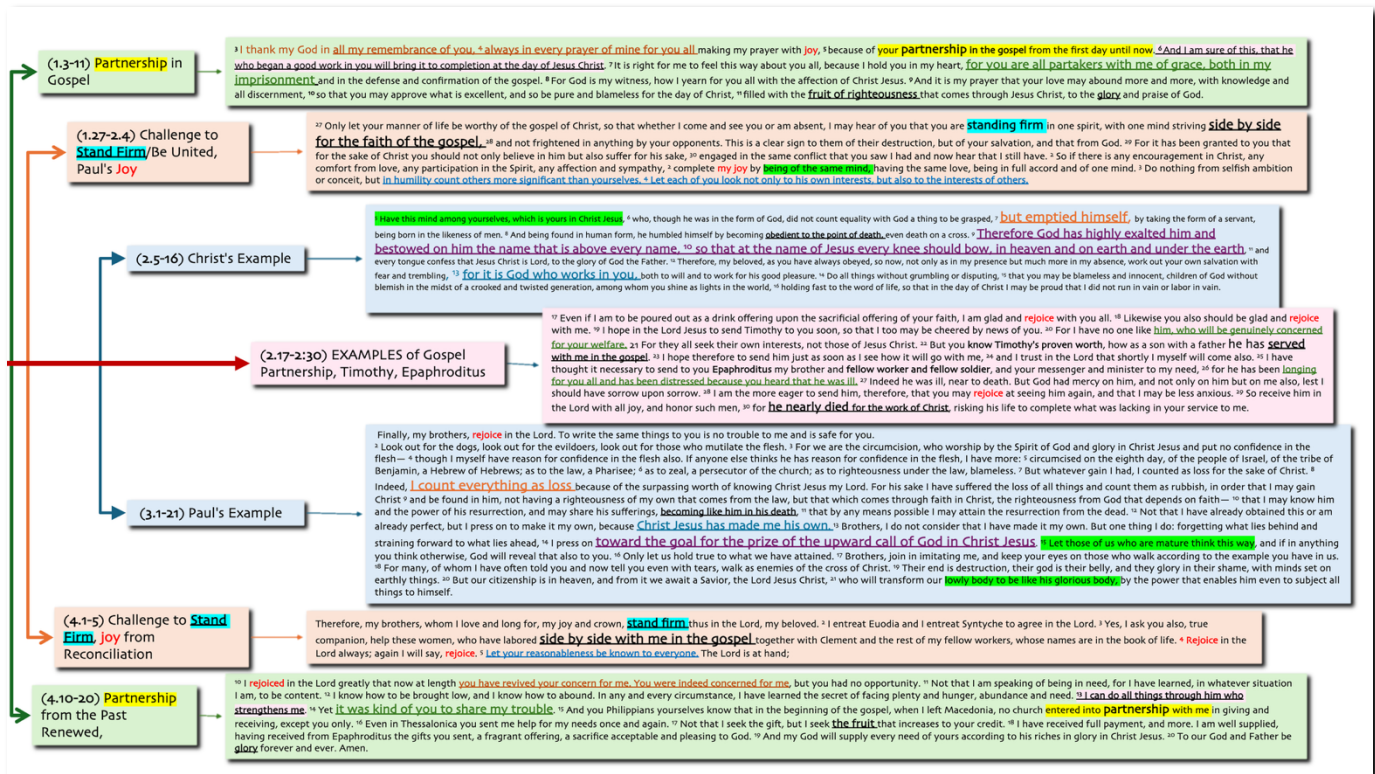
4:6 – do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer...

4:8 –⁸ Finally, brothers, whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, any excellence, anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

4:13 – **I can do all things through him** who strengthens me.

4:19 – And my **God** will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.





Message Links

1. [Philippians 1:1-6 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
2. [Philippians 1:7-30 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
3. [Philippians 2:1-11 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
4. [Philippians 2:12-16 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
5. [Philippians 2:16-30 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
6. [Philippians 3:1-9 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
7. [Philippians 3:9-19 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
8. [Philippians 3:17- 4:4 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
9. [Philippians 4:1-7 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
10. [Philippians 4:8-13 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)
11. [Philippians 4:13-23 Message \(Audio/Video slides\)](#)

The Lord bless you and keep you;
the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.