

## Philippians 1

### Intro to Philippians

- Philippi on Second Journey Acts 15:39–18:22 [Map]



- Lydia, slave girl, jailer
  - 1<sup>st</sup> church in Europe!
- Theme - Joy and peace flow from Christ in all circumstances (Fruit of the Spirit doesn't stop)
  - Theme - "When Jesus indwells us, He makes our lives count no matter how little or humble we are."<sup>1</sup>

### 1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

- Servants –
  - δούλος; *doûlos*; doo'-los
    - Slave, but willing slave, servant
      - Thayer: devoted to another to the disregard of one's own interests
    - We see people do this today when they believe in a political candidate. They give time, treasure, and talent because they want to serve.

<sup>1</sup> <https://biblicalblueprints.com/Sermons/BibleSurvey/47%20Philippians#the-heart-of-the-book-219-31a>

- Of Christ, never of Rome.
- Can we see our circumstances as allowed by God?
- Notice: Paul doesn't say "An Apostle" like in other letters.
  - No need to defend his apostleship to the Philippians. They didn't challenge his apostolic authority.

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

- the saints – if you are in Christ, you are a "Saint"
  - Set apart for God, special, purpose
- overseers and deacons – 1<sup>st</sup> mention in NT
  - Overseer – ἐπίσκοπος, Epískopos ep-is'-kop-os
    - bishop, overseer, elder
      - A synonymous term= Presbyter πρεσβύτερος; Presbýteros; pres-boo'-ter-os –Elder, presiding over
  - Deacons – διάκονος; Diákonos; dee-ak'-on-os
    - servant, minister, a person who renders service and help to others, in some a trusted officer of helps and service in the local church
  - Additional office (Not mentioned here): Pastor: ποιμήν; poimén; poy-mane' – shepherd, pastor.

<sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- Grace – always 1<sup>st</sup>! Then Peace.
  - The Roman greeting would be: "Charis" (Grace), the Jewish is: "Shalom" (Peace)

<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.

- my God – Paul could claim this.
  - Paul served the Lord with all his heart.
  - The Lord was his 1<sup>st</sup> priority, i.e. "his God"
    - Paul will later contrast the enemies of the cross of Christ as those whose god is their bellies/ stomach – meaning their mind is on themselves and not the Spirit-led things of God, Philippians 3:19
- Remembrance – Fond memories of the church at Philippi
  - They were beaten publicly, falsely accused, and imprisoned, yet it led to the jailer and his whole house being saved!
- of you– This can be a great prayer starter.
  - Thank the Lord for the godly people/ influences that He brought into your life.

- You might be surprised where the Spirit takes you.

<sup>5</sup> because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.

- partnership in the gospel—Fellowship” is *koinonia*
  - The Philippian church sent a gift to Paul by Epaphroditus – [Philippians 4:18](#)
  - They also sent many gifts to Paul for his work at various times.
  - Jesus did the heavy work of gaining our salvation; however, we can partner in that work by helping to get the message out, assisting a messenger, praying for the work, inviting someone to church,
  - This is a recurring theme in this letter
    - Sometimes it’s difficult: [Philippians 3:10](#)—that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may **share** his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,
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<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.

- He who began a good work in you – God found us, we didn’t find Him
  - He started a work in us which continues even now through sanctification
  - As a songwriter, I will start on a song and work out the melody, harmony, and rhythm, and then record and often rerecord parts until it’s correct. Then I will mix until it is correct. Then I will master the song until I feel good about the work. Then, and only then, will I release it for the public to hear my work. There are songs I have given up on because I am not perfect and couldn’t get them correct. God is Perfect and can not fail!
    - He began a work in us and he will reveal the finished product on the day of Christ Jesus!
    - We will be blameless, perfect, and RIGHTEOUS!
    - The whole creation waits for this! [Rom 8:19<sup>CEB</sup>](#)—<sup>19</sup> *The whole creation waits breathless with anticipation for the revelation of God’s sons and daughters.*
    - MARK MY WORDS, the day is coming! We will be complete in HIM!

The Lord bless you and keep you;

<sup>25</sup> the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

<sup>26</sup> the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.