

Philippians 2:16-30

⇒ [Message audio and slideshow](#)

¹⁶ *holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.*

- I may be proud – his pride was in their growth, not his own!
 - We can be proud of others. We should draw strength from others' accomplishments, especially those of a spiritual nature. i.e. growth in Christ.

¹⁷ *Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.*

- Offering?
 - The drink offering would be poured out next to the lamb or burnt offering.
 - It was eschatological for the Israelites because it was a requirement of the Promised Land. [Numbers 15:1-5](#)
 - [Numbers 15:4-5; 28:7](#)



- [Hebrews 10:1](#) – *for since the law has **but a shadow** of the good things to come instead of the true form of these realities, it can never, by the same sacrifices that are continually offered every year, make perfect those who draw near.*
- A shadow is the effect, not the cause!
- If you follow a shadow, it will lead you to the cause.
- [Colossians 2:16-17](#) ¹⁶ *Therefore let no one pass judgment on you in questions of food and drink, or with regard to a festival or a new moon or*

a Sabbath. ¹⁷ These are **a shadow** of the things to come, but the substance belongs to Christ.



- A shadow of a glass of water will not quench your thirst; only the water will!
 - Some people want to live by the law, that is, just trying to drink the shadow.
- God wants our faith, our trust in Him. This can be seen as an offering to Him.
- OT required sacrificial offerings, NT requires living sacrifices— [Romans 12:1-2](#)
- - Today, God requires a living sacrifice, [Romans 12:1-2](#) - *I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a **living sacrifice**, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. ² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the **renewal of your mind**, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.*
 - The **mind** of Christ! [Philippians 2:6-11](#)
 - The OT sacrifices never took away sin; they pointed to Christ, who would remove sin.
 - **The Burnt offering** – Wholly consumed [Christ]
 - **The Fellowship/ Peace offering** – There is a cost for Fellowship with God [Christ purchased our access]
 - **The Grain offering** – the first fruits/ harvest (without blemish/ yeast) [Christ is the spotless first fruit/firstborn signifying **God's provision**]
 - Finest flour, olive oil, incense- pleasing to God
 - Christ is the Bread of Life – [John 6:35](#)
 - Paul is being poured out next to the Philippians' living sacrifice of faith!

¹⁸ Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Rejoice with me –

- [1 Corinthians 13:6](#) ^{ESV} it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth.
 - In the Truth! Christ is the truth and therefore always a reason to rejoice!
 - The Joy of the Lord is my strength! [Nehemiah 8:10](#) - [focus on Him](#)
 - When my dad died, I didn't rejoice over that. However, I could still focus on the Lord and rejoice.
- Paul says, 'If I die, I die happy!'

¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you.

- hope in the Lord – Keeping with [focus on Him](#), Paul's hope was not in the court system, in the politics of the day, or in the defense documents that Luke put together (Luke & Acts)
 - Paul understood that the Lord is sovereign over everything, and so he placed his hope in Him!
 - Can we say the same? Is our hope in a president, an election, a big beautiful **Bill**, a lottery ticket, or a stroke of good fortune?
 - Let's be people of proper perspective – PPP!
- Who is this Timothy?
 - Acts 16 – **2nd mission**– *Paul came also to Derbe and to Lystra. A **disciple was there**, named Timothy, the son of a Jewish woman who was a believer, but his father was a Greek. ² He was well spoken of by the brothers at Lystra and Iconium.*
 - A disciple was there – the 1st mission saw Paul & Barnabas come to Derbe & Lystra
 - [Recap from [Acts 13-18](#)]



- Antioch in Syria– the church
 - Gentiles and Joy!
 - The Spirit spoke! “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul” [Acts 13:2](#)
- Paul, Barnabas, John-Mark to Cyprus
 - Paul said to Elymas –“*You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord?*”



- They walked a great distance, over mountains



- North Carolina, in comparison to the 1st mission

²⁰ For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ.

²² But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel.

- as a son with a father he has served

²³ I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me,

²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

Philippians 2:19-24— ¹⁹ I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. ²⁰ For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. ²¹ For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. ²² But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. ²³ I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, ²⁴ and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also.

Philippians 2:3 — ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:5-7 — ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant,

Who is Epaphroditus?

²⁵ I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. ²⁷ 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.

- Sent by the Philippians to bring a gift and help Paul.



- The Church in Philippi
- Possibly the same as Epaphras in [Colossians 1:7](#); [4:12](#), but probably not.
 - While Epaphras is a contraction of Epaphroditus, it was a common name.
 - Steve, Stephen, Steven
 - He was important in the Philippian church
 - He almost died from Roman fever? A strain of Malaria.
 - It was a sickness unto death.
 - He was on a faith mission yet got sick.
 - God heals, but He doesn't always heal.
 - Healing is a work of God, not a measure of faith!
 - Timothy, Paul, Elisha, David, Hezekiah, Chuck Smith, Gayle Erwin, all had sickness.

²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. ²⁹ So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, ³⁰ for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

Philippians 2:25-30 – ²⁵ I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶ for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. ²⁹ So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, ³⁰ for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me

Philippians 1:20-21 – ²⁰ as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Philippians 2:3 — ³ Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

Philippians 2:5-7 — ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant...he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death.... ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him

Are you trusting in the Lord?

Are you hoping in the Lord?

Are you serving others with the mind of Christ or are you grumbling?

Let us present ourselves as living sacrifices to God!

The Lord bless you and keep you;

²⁵ the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;

²⁶ the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.