

PHILIPPIANS

Partnership in the Gospel

PHILIPPIANS: Joy 'in Christ'

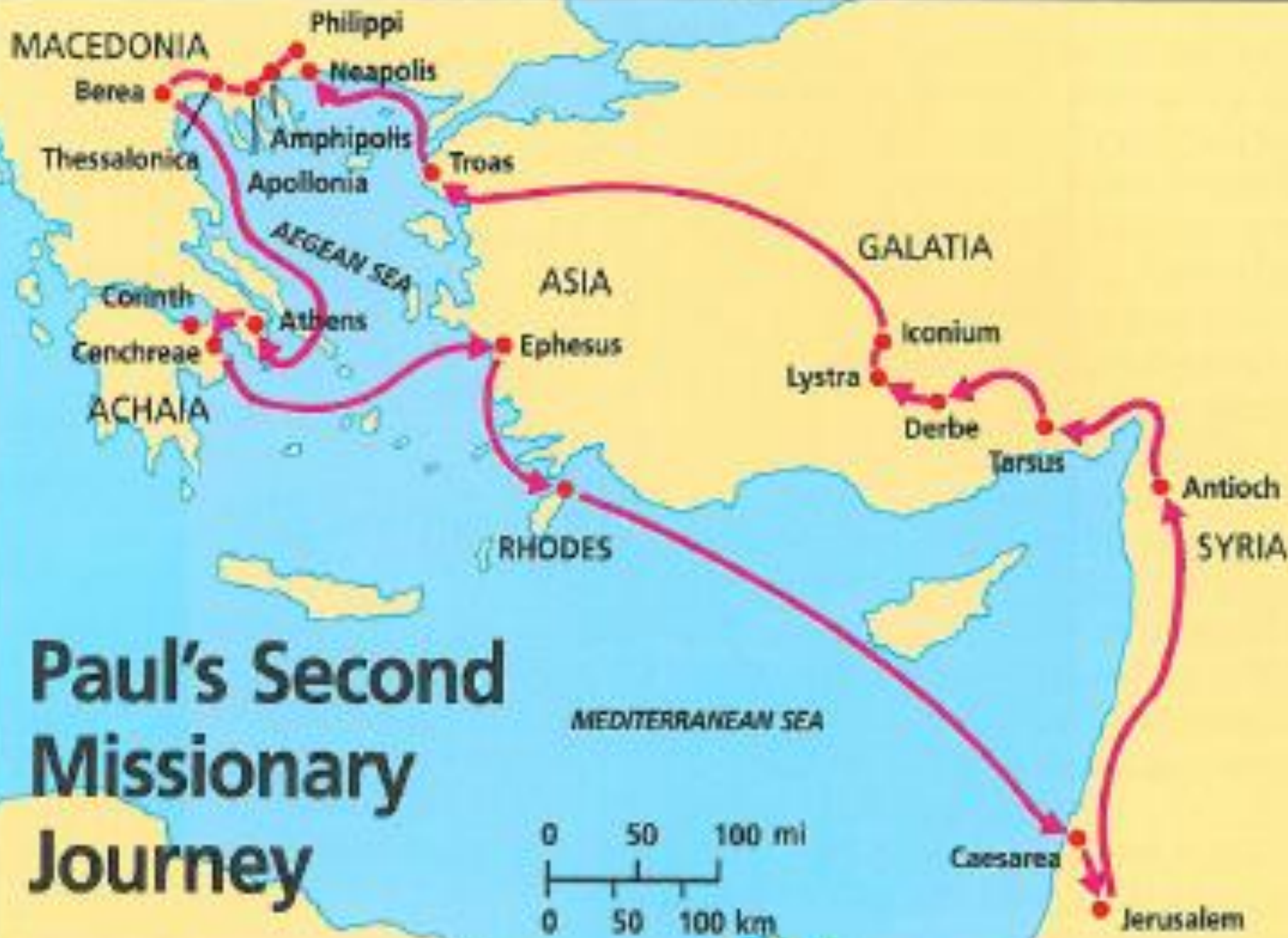
- Destination & Date
 - Paul's 3 Missionary Journeys (Paul & Silas)
 - 2nd MJ
 - Around 49-52 AD
 - Macedonia, Achaia
 - Approx. 3000-4000 miles
 - Acts 15:36-18:22

**Partnership in the Gospel
Philippians**

PHILIPPIANS: Joy 'in Christ'

- Destination & Date
 - Paul's 3 Missionary Journeys (Paul & Silas)
 - 2nd MJ (Macedonia, Achaia = Europe)
 - Antioch (15:36)
 - Asia Minor
 - Syria, Cilicia (15:41)
 - Mysia, Troas (16:6)
 - Macedonia
 - **Philippi (16:11)**
 - Thessalonica (17:1)
 - Berea (17:10)
 - Achaia
 - Athens (17:5)
 - Corinth (18:1)

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- Destination & Date
 - Lydia, first convert
 - Here, Paul and Silas were put into prison, delivered by a miracle, and were instrumental in the salvation of the jailor
 - Paul departs and leaves Luke as pastor (Acts 16:10, 40; 20:6)

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- Destination & Date

- Philippian church largely Gentiles (retired Roman soldiers)
- No synagogue at Philippi, Jews looked on with contempt (Acts 16:20)
- Church was great source of joy for Paul
- Paul's main source of financial support, even sending help to him in various locations (Phil. 4:15; 2 Cor. 11:9)
- Church was ten years old at time of writing of letter
- Letter delivered by Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:25-30)
- No schism, doctrinal error cited – stable church

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- Destination & Date

Book	Date (A.D.)	Book	Date (A.D.)
James	45-49	Philippians, Philemon	63
Galatians	49	1 Peter	63-64
1 & 2 Thessalonians	51	1 Timothy	63-66
Mark	50s or 60s	Titus	63-66
Matthew	50s or 60s	Hebrews	64-68
1 Corinthians	55	2 Peter	66
2 Corinthians	56	2 Timothy	67
Romans	57-58	Jude	68=8-
Luke	60	John	85-90
Acts	61	1, 2, 3 John	85-90
Colossians, Ephesians	61	Revelation	90-95

**Partnership in the Gospel
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EPISTOLARY COMPARISON

- SOTERIOLOGICAL EPISTLES (Romans-Galatians)
- ECCLESIOLOGICAL EPISTLES (Ephesians – Philippians)
- ESCHATOLOGICAL EPISTLES (Thessalonian Corpus)

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EPISTOLARY COMPARISON

- SOTERIOLOGICAL EPISTLES
 - Romans: Righteousness of Christ (justification)
 - 1 Corinthians: Wisdom of Christ (sanctification)
 - 2 Corinthians: Triumph of Christ (consolation)
 - Galatians: Freedom in Christ (liberation)
- ECCLESIOLOGICAL EPISTLES
 - Ephesians: Inheritance in Christ (exaltation)
 - **Philippians: Joy of Christ (exultation)**
 - Colossians: Sufficiency of Christ (completion)
- ESCHATOLOGICAL EPISTLES
 - 1 Thessalonians: Return of Christ (translation)
 - 2 Thessalonians: Wrath of Christ (compensation)

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EPISTOLARY COMPARISON

- GALATIANS: The implication of justification by faith
- EPHESIANS: The position of the believer “in Christ”
- PHILIPPIANS: The attitude of the believer “in Christ”

	Galatians	Ephesians	Philippians
Style	Mainly logical and argumentative	Doctrinal and hortatory	Informative and consoling (personal)
Main Subject	Salvation	Christ & Church	Life of Joy
Purpose	Corrective	Instructive	Inspirational
Tone	Sharp, rebuking	Calm, victorious	Tender, joyful

**Partnership in the Gospel
Philippians**

PHILIPPIANS: Joy 'in Christ'

- Purpose and Theme

- Commendation and Exhortation

1. He sought to express his love and gratitude for the gift they had sent him (1:5; 4:10-19);
2. to give a report about his own circumstances (1:12-26; 4:10-19);
3. to encourage the Philippians to stand firm in the face of persecution and rejoice regardless of circumstances (1:27-30; 4:4);
4. to exhort them to live in humility and unity (2:1-11; 4:2-5);
5. to commend Timothy and Epaphroditus to the Philippian church (2:19-30); and
6. to warn the Philippians against the legalistic Judaizers and the libertarian antinomians who had slipped in among them (ch. 3).

**Partnership in the Gospel
Philippians**

PHILIPPIANS: Joy 'in Christ'

- Purpose and Theme

- "Gospel Partnership"

- Philippians expresses gratitude for the reality of gospel partnership made possible through our union and position in Christ.
 - Christ is the most prominent noun in the epistle
 - 2:6-11 (The *Hymn to Christ* as the central point of Paul's letter)

**Partnership in the Gospel
Philippians**

PHILIPPIANS: Joy 'in Christ'

• Purpose and Theme

• "Gospel Partnership"

- Philippians guards against the failure to practice Christ-provided unity and against the failure of believers to rejoice in their blessings and position in Christ (Phil. 1:27; 2:2; 4:1f.).
- The theme of Philippians might well be "**joy and unity in Christ.**"
 - 16 times – "joy" or "rejoice."
 - "Unity" or "oneness" – "being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose" (2:2); "standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together" (1:27), and "be in harmony" (4:2).
 - The word "sin" is never mentioned.

**Partnership in the Gospel
Philippians**

PHILIPPIANS: 'Rejoice in the Lord'

• Purpose and Theme

- The Christian Life = Abiding Joy in Christ
 - Rejoice...
 - In fellowship with saints (1:3-11)
 - Over afflictions (1:12-30)
 - In the ministry for the saints (2:1-18)
 - In fellowship of Timothy and Epaphroditus (2:19-30)
 - That your hopes are in Jesus (3:2-16)
 - That your citizenship is in heaven (3:20)
 - Always over all things (4:4-9)
 - In bounties of God's people (4:10-19)

**Partnership in the Gospel
Philippians**

PHILIPPIANS: 'Rejoice in the Lord'

• Purpose and Theme

- In view of all Christ was, is, has and will accomplish, Paul declares Christ as the believer's life:
 - "for to me to live is Christ" (1:21),
 - that He is the perfect model of humility and sacrificing love (2:4-5),
 - that He is the one who will transform our humble bodies into the likeness of His glorious body at the resurrection (3:21), and
 - He is our means of enablement in any and all circumstances of life (4:12).

PHILIPPIANS: Outline

- Introduction (1a)
- Paul's Persecution: The Gospel of Christ (1)
 - His Afflictions Advance the Gospel
 - His Afflictions Exalt the Lord
 - His Afflictions Unite the Saints
- Paul's Pattern: The Humility of Christ (2)
 - The Exhortation: Humility produces Unity
 - The Examples of Humility:
 - Christ
 - Timothy
 - Ephaphroditus
 - The Exercise of Humility

**Partnership in the Gospel
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PHILIPPIANS: Outline

- Paul's Pursuit: The Knowledge of Christ (3)
 - Put No Confidence in the Flesh
 - As do Legalists
 - As do Libertines
 - Put All Confidence in the Lord
 - Count All Things Loss for Him
 - Count All Things Gain in Him
- Paul's Peace: The Presence of Christ (4)
 - Peace With One Another
 - Peace Within Our Heart
 - Peace With Our Circumstances