

The Epistle of Philippians

Author: Paul

- ✍ Context – Written while Paul is imprisoned in Rome
- ✍ Companions – Timothy (1:1; 2:19-23), Epaphroditus (2:25-30)
- ✍ Date– 62 CE

Ecclesia: Philippi (fond of Horses)

- ✍ Reference– Acts 16:12-40
- ✍ Members– Lydia & House, a Damsel, Jailor & House, Euodias, Syntyche, Clement
- ✍ Established– 49 CE, 1st Missionary Journey

Message:

- ✍ Key Phrase/Theme - **Rejoice**
- ✍ Audience – Ecclesia at Philippi
- ✍ Purpose– To encourage the ecclesia to be unified and to thank them for their generosity
- ✍ Main Message: “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice.” Phil. 4:4
- ✍ Unique Features – personal letter, positive message, encouraging, little rebuke

Summary of Book/ Break-Up/Chapter Division & Sections

Ch 1:

- 1:1,2 Greetings to the Ecclesia
- 1:3-11 Reasons for Paul’s Rejoicing
- 1:12-14 The Outcome of Paul’s Imprisonment
- 1:15-18 The Reasons of Some for Preaching
- 1:19-26 Paul’s Desire to Depart to be with Christ
- 1:27-30 Exhortations to Harmony and Resilience

Ch 2:

- 2:1-4 Exhortation to Like-mindedness
- 2:5-11 The Humility and Honour of Christ
- 2:12-18 Working Out Their Own Salvation
- 2:19-24 Paul and Timothy’s Relationship
- 2:25-30 Epaphroditus Commitment

Cont.

Ch 3:

- 3:1-3 A Warning Against Judaizing Teachers
- 3:4-6 Paul’s Justification to Boast in the Flesh
- 3:7,8 All Counted Worthless Compared to Christ
- 3:9-11 To Attain to Resurrection is the Great Aim
- 3:12-14 Pressing Towards the Mark
- 3:15-19 Enemies of the Cross of Christ
- 3:20,21 The Change at the Resurrection

Ch 4:

- 4:1-3 Individuals Exhorted to Unity
- 4:4-7 The Peace of God that Prayer Provides
- 4:8-13 Setting the Mind on Virtuous Things
- 4:14-18 Paul’s Needs Supplied by the Philippians
- 4:19-23 Departing Salutations.

Key Words/Passages:

Rejoice(d) - joy
1:4,18,25,26; 2:2,16,17,18,28;
3:1,3,4; 4:1,10

Confidence(t)
1:6,14,25; 2:24; 3:3,4

Mind(s)
1:27; 2:2,3,5,20; 3:15,16,19; 4:2,7

Same (very)
1:6,30; 2:2,18; 3:1,16; 4:2

You all (ye)
1:4,7,8,25; 2:17,26; 4:23

Fellowship
1:5; 2:1; 3:10

Life
1:20-22; 2:16,30; 4:3

Death
1:20,21; 2:8,27,30; 3:10,11

Exhortations for Today

- Being Confident in what God is Doing with us
- Being Sincere in All Aspects of our Lives
- Being of the Same Mind as Christ
- Being Surrounded by those who are Likeminded
- Being Set on Godly Goals
- Being Not Overly Anxious
- Being Always Joyful in the LORD
- Being Content

Links

- ✍ OT: Deut 30; Psa 33; Isa 61
- ✍ NT: Acts 16:12-40; 1 Thes 2:2