

The Book Of Philippians

Philippians Chapter 1

Verse 1:1 Paul and Timothy, fellow servants of the living Christ, to all those set apart by union into Christ who reside at Philippi, including the chosen servants there:

Verse 1:2 Gracious favor be unto you, and peaceful union, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

Verse 1:3 Each time you are brought to my remembrance, thanksgiving to God springs from my heart,

Verse 1:4 every time and in every prayer I have for you all while making my prayer requests with gladness

Verse 1:5 That I have such wonderful fellowship in the gospel of Christ crucified with you from first we met right up to now;

Verse 1:6 having total confidence concerning you that God who started his work with you will also be the one who performs it through you until the full manifestation of Christ:

Verse 1:7 Just as it is only fitting for me to believe for God's fullness for you, seeing you are so dear to my heart; because both visiting me in prison and standing with me as I defend and confirm the gospel before accusers, you have soaked in the gracious words and spirit that is upon and in me.

Verse 1:8 For God bears me record of the depth by which I long after you by the very heart longings of Jesus Christ's life in me.

Verse 1:9 And here is my prayer for you, that the loving Christian relations you enjoy may flourish more and more in spiritual insight and comprehension;

Verse 1:10 with the result that you may give priority to the things that are of eternal excellence; producing a walk with the Lord that is heartfelt and mindful of not offending others till the Son come forth.

Verse 1:11 My desire is that your being might be filled with the fruits of righteousness which come only by Jesus Christ, the True Vine, which results in great glory and praise for God.

Verse 1:12 However, I also want you to understand my situation here in prison, brothers, that what has transpired has actually furthered the reception and understanding of the gospel of the Cross;

Verse 1:13 so that I have been able to manifest both in the palace, as well as in many other places, my complete bonding to union in Christ:

Verse 1:14 resulting in so many more of the brotherhood in the Lord having grown in confidence based on my engraftedness to Jesus, which has caused them to be much more bold to fearlessly declare God's word.

Verse 1:15 Sure, some are talking about Christ because they are jealous or want to stir up strife, while others are out of good will speaking of him:

Verse 1:16 The one group is spreading and talking about Christ out of contention and have no sincerity toward him but think that spreading slander and contention are only adding hurt to one who is already imprisoned;

Verse 1:17 yet others speak of Jesus and my situation out of love, knowing full well that my trial will be about lifting up and declaring Christ as life.

Verse 1:18 What is my reaction to all this? With no other thought in mind than that whether by malicious intent or by a true presentation, Christ is being talked about; and in him being on people's lips, yea, I rejoice and will do so continually.

Verse 1:19 For I know that this time of imprisonment will turn to my release because of your prayers for me coupled with me not reacting negatively to things but by this branch living off the supply of the spirit and nature of Christ in these trials,

Verse 1:20 which I do according to my regular expectation and hope concerning my reactions, that in no situation I will respond shamefully by the flesh, but that with a bold commitment, as I always have in the past, so in this situation also Christ may be magnified in my body, whether it be by how I approach life now or how I give myself in accord with Christ's death.

Verse 1:21 Because to me, living is bound up in expressing Christ and dying is not a negative thing but gain.

Verse 1:22 However, if I continue in this physical body, showing forth Christ's nature is the fruit of my ministry:

yet I am not sure of what choice to make — living Christ here or departure.

Verse 1:23 You see, I am caught between two options, having a desire to depart earth life and be with Christ in the way that separation from the body brings, which seems far better than staying:

Verse 1:24 but it seems that to remain here and manifest Christ would be of more value to all of you.

Verse 1:25 Therefore, being confident that putting others first is God's way, I know that I must abide and continue with you all in order to bring about an increase of Christ and an increase of your joy in gaining greater faith;

Verse 1:26 so that Christ will get even more praise with rejoicing as a result of my coming back to you instead of just dying.

Verse 1:27 I only request that you order your manner of life in a way consistent with what the gospel expresses concerning oneness: which is that you stand together in one spirit, having one mind which moves forward together to lay hold of a confident embrace of the gospel; so that whether I am among you or absent, I will hear that these things are true of you.

Verse 1:28 Let no actions that your adversaries take cause you to lose union and be terrified: which lack of reaction would appear as proof to them that you are hardened, but to you, such peace in the face of conflict is an evident token of salvation which is from God.

Verse 1:29 For unto you is granted and bestowed by Christ, not only to believe on him, but to also prove that belief in the face of suffering which you do for his sake;

Verse 1:30 now that you are facing the same sort of conflict that you saw in me when I was at Philippi and are hearing that a similar thing is going on with me.

Philippians Chapter 2

Verse 2:1 If there has been any consoling stabilization come to you by union into Christ, if his love has impacted you at all, if you claim to have sweet communion with the Spirit, if you have gleaned any tender mercies or compassionate care,

Verse 2:2 then make me happy by doing this for me: that you agree in kind, giving the same love equally to all, being united in purpose and viewpoint.

Verse 2:3 Don't allow any action on the part of others to cause you to be motivated toward divisive argument, but through a realistic view of yourself apart from Christ's influence, esteem others better than yourself.

Verse 2:4 Don't just make decisions based on the best way to care for yourself but show interest and care for others to the same degree.

2:5 Allow this cross mind and attitude to work in you which was at work in Christ Jesus.

2:6 Whose being was formed out from God and of his substance yet did not grab hold screaming to maintain God-status.

2:7 Rather, he emptied himself of his privileged rights as God and related as a slave of humble stature, born of lower human birth.

2:8 And finding human form as his lot, he rebelled not against it but continually humbled himself right on down to death, event the worst death — crucifixion.

2:9 Because of this attitude which God highly exalts and prizes, he set Jesus' name above all other names. (He set his name as a clarion call above and to all others.)

2:10 That when the name of such a person Jesus is called, all in every sphere -- heaven, earth, and under the earth shall give due homage,

2:11 including verbal confession of the Lordship of Jesus Christ. Such honor of the Lamb brings glory to God, the Father.

2:12 In like manner, dear loved ones, just as you have always exhibited this spirit of self-emptying, not because I was looking over your shoulder but even with me gone, personally work out with careful diligence how this salvation is to be lived out.

2:13 Remember, all is to be carried out in the energy of God working through you, producing both the desire to please him and bringing forth the doing of it.

2:14 Since it is God producing the doing, we should do everything without resistance or contesting it

2:15 so that you are not the one accused of raising trouble, but as demonstrators of the family spirit, are above reproach though surrounded by those who bend and pervert things to their end, in the midst of whom you radiate light to the world,

2:16 Setting forth and holding onto the Word of life so that I rejoice when the Life of the Word appears, proving that my ministry toward you was not vain but fruitful.

2:17 Even greater, I also rejoice at being your drink offering, which by faith, you pour out to God at my death.

2:18 You should also rejoice with me at the prospect of my death becoming more than an execution.

2:19 However, I also trust in the Lordship of Jesus to allow me to send Timothy to you soon so I may find comfort when I know your present condition.

2:20 For among the committed brothers I have no one who has the same mind as I do toward you, who cares how you are doing.

2:21 For the tendency of man is to seek what will promote himself with little thought for what is Jesus' desire.

2:22 But Timothy has proven himself before you there, that, with the spirit of a son toward a father, he has served alongside me as we spread the message of Christ crucified.

2:23 It is this one that I plan to send your way once I know what my outcome here will be.

2:24 My confidence in the Lord is that he will allow me also to be able to come soon.

2:25 Along with Timothy, I thought to send Epaphroditus, who is my brother, companion, laborer, and soldier in the Lord, who initially was your messenger and the one sent by you to minister to my necessities.

2:26 For he longed to be with you all and was deeply saddened when he found out you had heard about his being sick.

2:27 It is a fact that he was sick and almost died, but the mercy of God spared him, and not just him but me also, keeping me from multiple sorrows.

2:28 I most eagerly sent him so that when you all are reunited, all may rejoice and your joy may relieve my sorrow.

2:29 Receive him now with gladness of heart as one who knows union with the Lord and recognize his growth and position among us.

2:30 Because, for his work in declaring Christ, he almost died, willing to give away his own life to serve toward and with me in your stead.

Philippians Chapter 3

3:1 Lastly, my brothers of the Seed, give joyful expression to your union in the Lord. Writing over and over to you concerning God's realities is not a burdensome thing to me but for you there is safety in rehearsing it.

3:2 Be cautious around Gentile dogs, around people who are just evil and around those who hack away at their flesh but never let it be crucified,

3:3 for we are those who have had the flesh cut away by the cross, who offer our worship to God based on spiritual realities and have our joy based on union into Christ from which we draw life and we have no confidence in our flesh,

3:4 even though I might have some valid reasons why I might have confidence in the flesh. If anybody has reason for trusting in his flesh, I have more:

3:5 I was circumcised on the eighth day like all good Israelites, and came from the tribe of Benjamin, considered to be a Hebrew of Hebrews; in relation to the law, I was a Pharisee;

3:6 about my level of zeal, I persecuted the church; concerning my righteous walk by the law, I was blameless.

3:7 But all those things that gave me confidence in the flesh and made me look good outwardly, I counted loss for a confidence based on Christ's life.

3:8 Without a doubt I count all loss to gain a more excellent comprehension of Christ Jesus, my Lord; for whom I have suffered and lost all things, and readily count them as refuse, with the purpose of gaining Christ as my fullness,

3:9 which involves being found in union with him, removing any vestige of my own righteousness which I gained by the law, but only what comes through the faith of Christ, which is the standing we have by faith given of God in Christ.

3:10 Specifically, I want to know Him in the realm of the power of His resurrection along with sharing in His crucified sufferings, which only come by means of becoming like Him through conformity to His selfless giving as seen at the Cross, with the result of attaining the kind of resurrection that only happens for those who are dead first.

3:11 So that by any of these means I might attain to living as one who has been raised out from the reality of those who live as yet separated and dead.

3:12 Though I am an apostle and long-time Christian, it is not as though I had already attained, or reached full maturity in the realities of Christ as life; but I pursue whole-heartedly, with the goal of laying firm hold upon that which Jesus originally had in mind when he laid hold of me.

3:13 Brothers, I do not look upon myself as if I had mastered the truth, but this one thing I do: I put behind me and forget the old ways of relating to God and now

eagerly stretch my arms forward to gain the new that has been set before us.

3:14 I press against all resistance toward the goal of the prized realities found in God's highest aims that are only found by union into oneness with Christ.

3:15 Let those of us, therefore, who claim any level of maturity have this same passion and viewpoint; and if there is any part of this that you do not agree with, even this will have to come by revelation which he will open unto you.

3:16 Nevertheless, pertaining to that which we have gained by revelation, let our walk match our knowledge, let us all be mindful of this.

3:17 Brothers, follow my example of putting the high calling first, and give due consideration to those among you who order their walk in this manner just as equally as you would follow our example of emphasis.

3:18 For there are many who claim to have a Christian walk, about whom I have often warned you and now even plead with you while weeping, that they are enemies of the cross lifestyle given us by Christ.

3:19 Who will end up ship-wrecked, whose god is what satisfies their own flesh because they glory in what the cross would call shame, whose minds are wrapped up in earth living and not in Christ.

3:20 But we are citizens from above from where we look to see Jesus Christ, our Savior,

3:21 At which appearing we are changed from living after our lowly individual body but take on the fashion of being the body of his glorious resurrection which is the means by which he subdues all things into Him as fullness.

Chapter Four

4:1 Because of this, my dearly loved brothers whom I long after, my joy and my crown, and because all is on the basis or resurrection, in this manner stand fast in union with the Lord.

4:2 I want to use what I have shared in this letter to beseech Euodia and Syntyche to have their mind on these things that speak of union in the Lord.

4:3 And I entreat all of you who are yoked together to learn Christ to lend help to all female workers who labor with me in the message of the cross, or who labored with Clement or with other committed workers, whose names are in the book of life.

4:4 Give joyful expression to your union with Christ regardless of circumstances, and I repeat it again, Rejoice.

4:5 Let your balanced moderation be known to all men. The Lord is among and in us.

4:6 So do not let outward things make you anxious, but in every situation pass it upward in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let God know what's on your heart.

4:7 And, as you do, the peace of God, which is not based on mental comprehension, will stand guard over your

hearts and minds through the instrumentality of Christ in us.

4:8 In closing, brothers, whatever things are of the truth, whatever things that come from honest evaluation, whatever things that are according to God's justice, whatever things that are without mixture, whatever things that are lovely, whatever things that give a good and correct report; if it proceeds from virtuous character or if it spawns our praise, meditate on these qualities.

4:9 The things that you have learned in my sharing, received from my hand, heard as my teaching or seen as my lifestyle, do the same, and if you do, the God of peace will be at work in you, too.

4:10 But part of my rejoicing in the Lord is also how your care for me has blossomed out again; of which care, I am sure, was in your mind all along but you had no opportunity to show it.

4:11 Not that I am complaining about lack or bringing it up because of my need; for I have learned to live a life of contentedness regardless of the circumstances I am found in.

4:12 For I know how to do without, and I know how to live in abundant blessings: under any circumstances and under all conditions I have gained insight necessary either to be full or to be hungry, both to live with abundance or in lack of basic needs.

4:13 I am able to do any and all of these things but only through Christ who strengthens me from within.

4:14 In spite of all that, it was good and kind of you to share with me during this time of affliction.

4:15 All of you at Philippi might remember how, in the beginning of my ministering the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, that no church gave financial backing to me except your church.

4:16 And even when I left you for Thessalonica, you once again sent financial help for my needs.

4:17 I am not bringing this up to coax you in to sending a love gift for me; this is not about me and my earth needs but about eternal fruit on your account.

4:18 At this present time I have all that I need with abundance and am full, because I received from Ephroditus all the things that he carried as gifts from you, which was not just an act of giving but a sweet smelling savor of the acceptable sacrifice himself which is well-pleasing to God.

4:19 And know this: my God shall make his avenue of supply for your needs based on the riches of union which comes by Christ Jesus.

4:20 For this supply, it is unto God our Father, who should get glory forever and ever. Amen.

4:21 Send our greetings to every brother who lives separated unto the reality of union into Christ. All the committed brothers who are with me here greet you.

4:22 All the believers send greetings, especially those who are of Caesar's household.

4:23 May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

POSSIBLE AMENDMENTS TO THIS TRANSLATION

Phil. 2:5 -- Your attitude should be that of Christ, whose being is the same as God, did not consider it something to fight for to be equal with the godhead in terms of power and position but...

