

Philippians 1

King James Version (KJV)

Written Circa: 64 AD

(Paul wrote this letter while he was in prison in Rome. His only crime was teaching God's Word)

(There were no synagogues in Philippi when Paul taught them; so he didn't get persecuted by the temple legalists. The people accepted God's Word without opposition from any temple clerics)

(Paul was with the Philippians previously in Acts-16, Acts-20)

1 Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:
(Timotheus = Timothy)

2 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. (Grace – unmerited favor <from God>)

3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, (There was no opposition to Paul's teachings in Philippi. He appreciated them for that)

4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,

5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; (They eagerly accepted Paul's teachings with no resistance from false preachers; unlike in so many other places where Paul taught)

6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: (Paul was confident that they will finish the work there that he started; all the way out to the Lord's Day)

NOTE: (We will also stick to the truth of God's Word. We won't be deceived by antichrist when he arrives. We won't accept the perversions of the left as if it was normal. We won't accept the murder of babies in abortion clinics)

7 Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. (They didn't judge Paul, like others did, for his being in prison in Rome. Paul had committed no crimes against the state)

⁸For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ. (God knows that he misses them)

⁹And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; (As you study together to learn more, may God give you insight, wisdom and understanding)

¹⁰That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ. (approve = test & verify) (excellent = something different – bad translation)

(If someone brings you a different teaching, test it to make sure it agrees with God's Word. If it doesn't, then get rid of it. It's not from God. That applies today just as it did then)

¹¹Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God. (Stay with the truth and God will approve of you)

¹²But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; (The world hates Christianity. Yet, Paul's imprisonment helped further his Bible teachings to many new people)

(No man or prison can stop God's Word from going forward. People want to know the truth; regardless of what any corrupt government says)

¹³So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places; (Paul converted many people while he was imprisoned in the Palace in Rome)

¹⁴And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. (Paul's unwavering faith in God inspired many other Bible teachers to preach confidently)

¹⁵Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: (Some preach for self glorification; others preach to glorify God)

¹⁶The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds: (Some preach false doctrines in order to cause trouble for Paul and for Christians)

¹⁷But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel. (Others preach to further the work that Paul began)

¹⁸What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice. (Either way, regardless of the motive, God's Word is advanced to more and more people. God sees to that)

¹⁹For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, (This will be counted as good works by Paul)

²⁰According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death. (Paul was on trial for teaching the Gospel. He faced a possible death sentence. Nero was killing Christians left and right)

²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. (We all die. The good works we do, before we die, will be our reward in Paradise)

²²But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.

²³For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better: (A better afterlife is waiting for us if we live a good life here)

²⁴Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you. (But while Paul is alive, he can help people all the more)

²⁵And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith; (Paul wanted to continue to teach as long as possible)

²⁶That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again. (Paul was hoping to see them again)

²⁷ Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; (Keep the faith, so that I may hear good reports about you)

²⁸ And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God. (Those against God will see perdition; those with God will see salvation. Don't let the enemy scare you with their threats. They hate all Christians. God will hold them to account for their actions)

²⁹ For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake; (The world will always hate and persecute Christians. Satan will see to that)

³⁰ Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear to be in me. (Paul was the example. He was a great Bible teacher)