

Philippians

¹ Paul and Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus in Philippi, with the overseers and deacons: ²grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God every time I think of you, ⁴always in every supplication of mine for all of you, making supplication with joy, ⁵because of your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶I am convinced of this very thing, that he who began a good work in you will carry on to completion, until the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷It is right for me to think this about all of you, because I have you in my heart, since all of you are my gracious partners, both in my bonds, and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.

⁸God is my witness, how I long after all of you with the affection of Christ Jesus; ⁹and I am praying this, that your love may overflow yet more and more in knowledge and all judgment, ¹⁰that you may approve things that are excellent, that you may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, ¹¹being filled with the fruit of righteousness, which through Jesus Christ is to the glory and praise of God.

¹²I want you to know, brothers, that the things that have happened to me have resulted rather in the progress of the gospel, ¹³So that my bonds in Christ have become known to the whole garrison, and to all the rest; ¹⁴and that most of the brothers in the Lord, having confidence by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the message fearlessly.

¹⁵Some indeed preach Christ through envy and contention, and some through good will; ¹⁶some indeed out of love, knowing I am set for the defense of the gospel; ¹⁷and some proclaim Christ out of selfishness, not sincerely, expecting to add suffering to my bonds. ¹⁸What difference does it make? Only that in every way, whether with true or false motives, Christ is being proclaimed; and I rejoice in this, yes, and I will rejoice. ¹⁹I know that this will lead to my salvation, through your

petition and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. ²⁰According to my eager expectation and hope, I will not be put to shame in anything, but in all boldness – as it has always been, so it is even now – Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.

²¹For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²But if I live in the flesh, then this is my fruitful work, and I do not know what I will choose. ²³I face a dilemma, desiring to depart and be with Christ (which is better by far), ²⁴but to remain in the flesh is more pressing for your sake. ²⁵Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will abide and continue with all of you, for the progress and joy of your faith, ²⁶that your confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my presence with you again.

²⁷Finally, discharge your obligations as citizens worthily of Christ's gospel, so that, whether I come and see you, or am away from you, I may hear how things are with you: that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one heart, striving side by side for the faith of the gospel; ²⁸and that you are not being frightened in anything by your opponents, which is to them an indication of your destruction, but to you of God's salvation. ²⁹It has been granted to you, for Christ's sake, not only to trust in him, but also to suffer for his sake, ³⁰having the same anguish which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.

2 If therefore there is encouragement in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and sympathy, ²fulfill my joy, that you may be of the same mind, having the same love, being united in spirit, and of one accord. ³With neither selfishness nor conceit, humbly consider others to be better than yourselves. ⁴Have regard, each of you, not for your own things, but each one for the things of others.

⁵Have this mind in you, which also was in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, being in the form of God, did not consider being equal to God something to cling to, ⁷but he emptied himself, took the form of a slave, was made

in the likeness of men, and having been found in appearance as a man,⁸ he humbled himself, and became obedient to death, even the death of the cross.⁹ Therefore, also God exalted him to the loftiest height, and gave him a name above every name,¹⁰ so that every knee – of the ones of heaven, and on the earth, and under the earth – should bend at Jesus' name;¹¹ and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the praise of God the Father.

¹²So my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not only as in my presence, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.¹³ It is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

¹⁴Do all things without grumblings and arguments,¹⁵ that you may be faultless and sincere, God's blameless children, in the midst of a crooked and distorted generation, among whom you are shining as lights in the world.¹⁶ Hold firmly to the message of life, that I might rejoice in the day of Christ, that I neither ran nor labored in vain.¹⁷ Yes, and if I am poured out on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad, and I rejoice with all of you.¹⁸ In the same way, you are glad, and rejoice with me.

¹⁹I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that, when I know how things are going with you, I might be encouraged.²⁰ I have no one of like disposition, who will sincerely care about your welfare,²¹ for they all seek their own things, not the things of Jesus Christ.²² You know his character, that as a child to a father, he has served with me in the gospel.²³ I hope therefore to send him, right after I see how things go with me,²⁴ and I have confidence in the Lord that I myself will come soon.

²⁵I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and servant of my need,²⁶ since he was longing for all of you, and he was distressed because you had heard he had been sick.²⁷ Indeed he was sick, and near death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him, but also on me,

so that I might not have sorrow upon sorrow. ²⁸Therefore I have more eagerly sent him, in order that, when you see him again, you will rejoice, and I will be without sorrow. ²⁹So, receive him in the Lord with all joy, and hold such people in honor. ³⁰He was near death for Christ's work, risking his life, that he might make up your lack of service to me.

3 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. It is not troublesome for me to write the same things to you, but it is safe for you. ²Watch out for the dogs; watch out for the evildoers; watch out for the mutilation; ³for we are the circumcision, who serve by the Spirit of God, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in flesh, ⁴although even I might have confidence in flesh.

If any other person has confidence in flesh, I yet more: ⁵circumcised on the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; according to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶according to zeal, persecuting the called-out people; according to the righteousness in the law, found faultless.

⁷But the things which were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ's sake. ⁸More than that, I count all things to be a loss because of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord. I have lost all things for him, and count them as dung, that I might gain Christ, ⁹and be found in him. I do not hold to my own righteousness, which is of the law, but to that which is by faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰that I might know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being conformed to his death, ¹¹if by any means I might attain to the resurrection of the dead.

¹²It is not that I have already attained, or that I have already been made complete, but I press on, if I might lay hold of that for which I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. ¹³Brothers, I do not consider myself to have laid hold, but I do one thing: forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are ahead, ¹⁴I press toward the goal, toward the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵Therefore, let us, as many as are full grown, think this way! But, if you think otherwise, God will reveal this to you. ¹⁶However, we must hold on to what we have attained.

¹⁷Imitate me, brothers, and observe those who walk in this manner, even as you have us for an example, ¹⁸for many walk – of whom I told you often, and now tell you weeping – as the enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their end is destruction, their god is the stomach, their mind is earthly, and shame is their glory.

²⁰Our citizenship is in heaven, from where we eagerly await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, according to the power which enables him to subject all things to himself.

4 Therefore, brothers, my beloved and yearned for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved. ²I beg Euodia and I beg Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, also I ask you, loyal yokefellow, help those who have striven beside me in the gospel, and with Clement and the rest of my fellow-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Always rejoice in the Lord. Again, I will say, rejoice! ⁵Let your graciousness be known to all men. The Lord is near. ⁶Have no anxiety about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving, let your requests be known to God, ⁷and God's peace, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, as many things as are true, as many things as are honorable, as many things as are right, as many things as are pure, as many things as are lovely, and as many things as are of good report, if there is any virtue, and if there is anything praiseworthy, think on these things. ⁹The things you have learned, and have received, and have heard, and have seen in me, these things practice, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I have rejoiced greatly in the Lord, that now at last you have revived your concern for me, for though you indeed were concerned, you had no opportunity. ¹¹I am not speaking because of need, for I have learned to be content, regardless of my circumstances. ¹²I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and going hungry, both to abound and to be needy: ¹³I have strength for every situation through the One who gives me power. ¹⁴However, you did well to share with me in my trouble.

¹⁵And also, Philippians, you know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I went out from Macedonia, no congregation had partnership with me in the matter of giving and receiving, but you alone; ¹⁶even in Thessalonica you sent more than once to my need. ¹⁷It is not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit which increases to your account. ¹⁸I have all things, and I abound. I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the things from you, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. ¹⁹My God will fill your every need, according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. ²⁰Now praise be to our God and Father forever and ever, amen.

²¹Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers with me send greetings to you. ²²All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. ²³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.