

The Epistle of Paul to the Philippians

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the holy *ones* in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi along with overseers and deacons. ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ³I thank my God every time I remember you. ⁴In every prayer of mine for you, I always pray with joy ⁵because of your participation in the Good News from the first day until now. ⁶I am confident of this: that he who began a good work in you will continue to complete it right up to the day of Christ Jesus. ⁷It is only right for me to think this way about all of you because I have you in my heart both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the Good News; you all are partakers with me of grace. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the bowels of Christ Jesus.

⁹And I keep praying this: that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you can determine the things that are best, in order to be pure and blameless until the day of Christ, ¹¹having been filled with the fruit of righteousness, which *is* through Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

¹²Now I want you to know, brothers, that the things *that happened* to me have contributed to the advancement of the Good News, ¹³such that my imprisonment for *the cause of Christ* has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard, and to everyone else, ¹⁴and most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord because of my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word of God without fear.

¹⁵Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ out of envy and strife, and some also from good will. ¹⁶The latter *do it* out of love, knowing that I am set for the defense of the Good News, ¹⁷but the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, thinking to cause affliction for me in my imprisonment.

¹⁸What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretence or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice. ¹⁹For I know that through your supplication and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, this will turn out to my salvation, ²⁰according to my eager expectation and hope, that in nothing will I be put to shame, but with all boldness, as always, *so* now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life, or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²But if *I am* to live *on in the flesh*, this *will mean* fruitful

labor for me. Yet what will I choose? I do not know. ²³Now I am hard pressed from the two *directions* (having the intense desire for the return and to be with Christ, for it is very far better), ²⁴yet to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. ²⁵And convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that by me your pride may abound in Christ Jesus because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the Good News of Christ, in order that whether I come and see you or be absent, I may hear of your state, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one soul, contending together for the faith of the Good News, ²⁸and in nothing frightened by those who oppose you, which for them is evidence of *their* destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God, ²⁹because it has been granted to you for the sake of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake, ³⁰experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

2 Therefore, *if there* is any encouragement in Christ, if any persuasive power in love, if any fellowship in spirit, if any bowels and compassions, ²fully fill my *cup of joy* by thinking the same thing, having the same love, united in soul *while* thinking this one thing: ³(not

out of selfishness or out of empty conceit, but in humility) each counting the other better than himself, ⁴each of you looking not to *just* his own things, but each of you *looking* also to the things of others.

⁵Have this mind in you that was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, existing in the form of God, did not regard being equal with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, becoming obedient *even* to death, yes, the death of the cross. ⁹Therefore also God highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and so that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

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

¹⁴Do all things without grumbling and disputing, ¹⁵in order that you may be blameless and harmless, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among

whom you shine as lights in the world, ¹⁶holding forth the word of life, that I may have a reason for boasting in the day of Christ, that I did not run to no purpose neither labored to no purpose. ¹⁷Yes, and if I pour myself out *as a drink offering*, in addition to the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice, and rejoice together with you all, ¹⁸and in the same way you also rejoice, and rejoice together with me.

¹⁹Now I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, that I also may be of good comfort when I know your state. ²⁰For I have no man likeminded, who will care truly for your state. ²¹For they are all seeking their own *interests*, not the things of Jesus Christ. ²²But you know of his proven worth, that as a child *serves* a father, *so* he served with me in the Good News.

²³Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I shall see how it will go with me, ²⁴but I have confidence in the Lord that I myself will also come shortly.

²⁵But I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother and fellow-worker and fellow-soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, ²⁶since he longed after you all, and was very troubled because you had heard that he was sick. ²⁷For indeed he was sick, near to death, but God had mercy on him, and not on him only, but on me also, that I

might not have sorrow upon sorrow.

²⁸Therefore, I have sent him all the more eagerly, so that when you see him again, you may rejoice, and so that I may be the less sorrowful. ²⁹So welcome him in the Lord with all joy, and hold such in honor, ³⁰because for the work of Christ he came near to death, risking his life to supply that which was lacking in your service toward me.

3 Furthermore, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things is not tiresome to me, while for you *it is* a safe *measure*.

²Beware *of* the dogs! Beware *of* the evil workers! Beware *of* the mutilation! ³For we are the circumcision, the ones serving by *the* spirit of God and boasting in Christ Jesus, and not having confidence in the flesh. ⁴Although I myself might have confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has *a reason for* confidence in the flesh, I yet more. ⁵As to circumcision, an eighth day one, *of the* stock of Israel, *of the* tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews. As touching *the* law, a Pharisee; ⁶as touching zeal, persecuting the congregation; as touching the righteousness which is in the law, having become blameless. ⁷But what things were gain to me, these I have considered loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸Indeed, more than that, I count all things to be loss for the excellency of the

knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I suffered the loss of all things, and count them but dung, that I may gain Christ,⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own, *even* that which is of the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith,¹⁰ that I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed to his death,¹¹ if by any means I may attain to the resurrection out from among *the* dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained, or have already been perfected, but I diligently pursue, if indeed I may lay hold on that for which also I was laid hold on by Christ Jesus.¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself as having laid hold of *it* yet, but one thing *I do*, letting go of the things that are behind, and straining forward to the things that are before,¹⁴ I press toward the goal to *win* the prize of the high calling of God in *connection with* Christ Jesus.

¹⁵Let us therefore, as many as are mature, keep this in mind, and if in anything you think differently, God will reveal this also to you.

¹⁶However, to those things we have attained, by that same *standard* let us walk.

¹⁷Brothers, join with others in being imitators of me, and pay attention to the ones who are walking according to the pattern you

have *seen* in us.¹⁸ (For many walk, of whom I told you often, and now tell you even crying, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ,¹⁹ whose end is destruction, whose god is *their* stomach, and *whose* glory is in their shame, who set their mind on earthly things.)²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven, from where also we wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,²¹ who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the exertion of the power that he has, even to subject all things to himself.

4 So then, my brothers beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my beloved.

²I exhort Euodia and I exhort Syntyche, to be of the same mind in the Lord.³ Yes, I ask you also, true Yokefellow, help these women, for they contended together with me in the Good News, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow-workers whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say *it*, rejoice!⁵ Let your reasonableness be known to all men, the Lord is near.⁶ Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your petitions be made known to God.⁷ And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your

hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever *is* honorable, whatever *is* righteous, whatever *is* pure, whatever *is* lovely, whatever *is* of good report, if there is any virtue, and if there is anything worthy of praise, think on these things. ⁹The things that you learned and received and heard and saw in me, put into practice, and the God of peace will be with you.

¹⁰I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last you have caused your thinking of me to blossom anew. Indeed, you were concerned *before*, but you lacked opportunity.

¹¹Not that I speak in respect of lack, for I have learned in whatever circumstances I am *in*, to be content.

¹²I know how to be abased, and I also know how to abound. In any and every situation I have learned the secret *to being content*, whether filled or hungry, whether in abundance or in need. ¹³I can do all things through him who empowers me. ¹⁴Nevertheless, you have done well to share *with me* in my affliction.

¹⁵And you yourselves also know, Philippians, that in the beginning of the Good News, when I departed from Macedonia, no congregation shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you only, ¹⁶for even in Thessalonica you sent *gifts* once and again for my

need. ¹⁷Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that accumulates to your account. ¹⁸But I have all things, and abound. I am filled, having received from Epaphroditus the things *that came* from you, and odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, pleasing to God. ¹⁹And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus. ²⁰To our God and Father *be* the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

²¹Greet every holy *one* in Christ Jesus. The brothers who are with me greet you. ²²All the holy *ones* greet you, especially those who are of Caesar's household.

²³The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.

