

History:

The city of Philippi named for Philip of Macedon, the father of Alexander the Great, who seized the city in 358 B.C. from the Thracians. Later, Octavius (Augustus Caesar) made Philippi a Roman colony. It was a principal city on the great *Egnatia* highway in Macedonia (this highway extended from Rome to Byzantium –later Constantinople then present day Istanbul), and traders from both eastern and western countries stopped there often. This made it a strategic place for the spreading of the gospel. (1) (Complete Word Study Bible by Zodiates) Book of VICTORY and JOY! The word JOY occurs 16x!

Roman Imprisonments:

- I. House arrest – 2 years rented house to share gospel all who came to Paul Phil 4:22 Caesar's Household
- II. II Tim – Mamertine Dungeon. dank & foreboding, inmates rarely stayed there long periods of time

Verse 1

Servants – NOT Acquaintances or mere observers... Servants!

GK: (Lowu) pertaining to a state of being completely controlled by someone or something. Slave!

Paul and Tim's lives were/are consumed with living for and proclaiming Jesus. Eph 2:8-10

Test yourselves to see if you are still in the faith. (II Cor 13:5) How much of our lives are invested in living for, proclaiming, and glorifying Christ?

Timothy: Means: "one who honors God" Interesting how his name revealed his future!

Paul loved Tim like his own son. Paul's preaching impacting Tim leading to his salvation.

All Saints at Philippi

Concerned about ALL believers. Ever hear of "clicks"? What are they? Strong and weak points??

In church, how often do we change where we sit? How frequently do we make a point to talk to new people?

In Christ Jesus

Not By or Near but IN! Jesus is one w/ God John 10:30. We are 1 w/ Christ! **Gal 3:28**. All saints are in Christ.

Overseers(Bishops) **GK:** from two Greek words "watchman" and "upon". Superintendent. **Lowu:** one who serves as a leader in a church.

- Qualifications: I Tim 3:1-7

Deacons GK: *diákonos* Responsibility to care for the believer's needs. Verses ELDER

- Acts 6 lists first deacons in the bible. Stephen and Philip "waiting tables"
- Tychicus Eph 6:21 "servant" same word as "deacon" in Greek. Ministered to Paul!
- Qualifications: I Tim 3:8-10

Together/with GK: carries the idea of working together with each other. Saints, Deacons, Overseers on 1 team.

Eph 4:11-12 Believers all work and pull together for the entire body of believers.

Final Thought: In Paul's time, letters normally opened with the name of the sender along with the recipient's name and a brief greeting. Sometimes letters back then opened with thanks to the gods along with ongoing prayers for the well-being of the recipient(s).

Paul hooked into the background knowledge of the people! Becoming ALL things to ALL people so as to win them to Christ! **Genius in this!**

Two ways to remember something new: Rote it in or Tie new knowledge to some old knowledge in the brain.

Verse 2

Grace GK favor and good will with and towards others. Restaurant, Concert, Purchase

Favor is an important component for success. WLEB Berks example!

Praying for Favor with people in your life leads to success! →

Peace GK: (Lowu) set of favorable circumstances involving peace and tranquility

↙ God prepping ground ahead of time for you!

✓	Family
✓	Friends
✓	Supervisors
✓	Doctors

From God our Father and Jesus! -- Eph 3:20 to him who is able to immeasurably more than

Verse 3

Thank GK: expressing gratitude. PIN Paul shows gratitude to God for this believer because...

Every time I remember you. What does Every mean in Greek? EVERY!!

I wonder how often a person is thankful for me vs wondering why God is torturing them with me?

Remember GK: Not because one forgot but because one just remembers so well (Me)

During the day Paul gives thanks to God as he remembers the Phil saints!

How often do we thank God for believers as we think of them throughout the day?

To be thankful we need to be in their lives to know about them so we know what to be thankful for!

Thankfulness of Paul in his letters Attitude or Mindset of Thankfulness!

Romans 1:8

I Cor 1:4-5

Phil 1:3

Col 1:3-4

I Thes 1:2

II Thes 1:3

II Tim 1:3-4

Philemon 4

Verse 4

In **ALL** prayers for you... Pray unceasingly

Pray (Present Passive/Middle Participle) with **JOY!** **GK:** (Lowu) a state of joy & gladness ie: great happiness.

Content of prayers: Only a wish list? Prayer is regular convo like we do with our daily talk! How often do we talk to God our Father about our day throughout the day? He wants to hear from us!

Verse 5

Partnership/fellowship GK: implies a 'close association' in the partnership. (Wuest) a joint-participation in a common interest and activity.

AMP: your sympathetic cooperation and contributions and partnership. They were **ALL IN!**

Philippians supported Paul with prayers and finances.

Eph 4:11 - 12

Gospel – This is why we are here. To bring people to Christ. As well as disciple those who are in Christ.

First day until now

Shows an ongoing consistent service. Unity in service!

Verse 6 Great Promise to Memorize!

Confident GK: Perfect Participle Active. Firmly convinced beyond a shadow of a doubt. **Eph 1:13-14**
Not just today but tomorrow and forever!

Began GK: Aorist Participle Middle voice. Jesus is the subject whose action is impacting Himself!
Salvation starts and ends with Jesus – God draws us to himself!

Carry GK:
God does not quit on us and neither should we!

↓
Building the church His body.
Glorifying God with growth people saves

Completion/perfect GK: (Lowu) bring an activity to a successful finish.

Till Day of Christ. When Jesus comes for us in the **RAPTURE!!!** 2 types of Righteousness: { Positional
Security! God is not going to give up on us. He promises to keep working on, in, and through us } Ongoing Eph 1:13

Read AMP verse 6

And I am convinced *and* sure of this very thing, that He Who began a good work in you will continue until the day of Jesus Christ [right up to the time of His return], **developing** [that good work] *and* **perfecting** *and* bringing it to **full completion** in you.

Verse 7

In my heart. What does it mean to have someone in your heart?

Philippians were very dear to Paul. He didn't just preach, but loved them. Paul is very emotional here!

II Cor 7:3 you have such a place in our hearts we would live or die with you

All share in God's grace. GOSPEL Defend vs Confirm??

Corporate aspect in which we are all involved. Every time we do something for Christ, we are advancing His Kingdom and giving glory to God! Big Deal!

Phil 4:22 "Caesar's household" sends greetings!

Verse 8

Testify/Witness GK: The Greek word is where we get our word **Martyr**. Powerful Witness!!

Long GK: to desire earnestly, to have a strong affection for (Wuest) Long is an "intensive" form.

Paul, the once proud legalistic Pharisee, has tender heart feelings for the former pagan Greeks! Speaks to the amazing transformation God can do in all of us!

2 Cor 11:29 Who is weak, and I do not feel weak? Who is led into sin, and I do not inwardly burn?

Jesus' affection: GK: "insides" (bowels) (Lowu) to experience great affection and compassion for someone.
How much do we feel another believer's pain?

The love Jesus has for us is Agape. That is Paul's love for his children!

Verse 9

Pray PINM Present Indicative Middle

Love GK: Agape (26)

Paul wants to grow
As believers grow Paul feels it 2 Cor 11:29

Abound GK: to be in excess going WAY beyond what is normal. **Present Subjunctive Active**

Couple that with "more and more" and you are talking way excessive!

Knowledge gnōsis is knowledge. **Epi gnosis GK:** expresses a more thorough "full" knowledge and a more personal involvement in gaining that knowledge. "**Experiential knowledge**"

- You can play a sport and have knowledge or you can play a sport and have more "full knowledge".
- GRASS IS GREEN VS HOW YOU KNOW THE GRASS IS ACTUALLY GREEN!

Depth of **insight** GK: (Lowu) to have the capacity to perceive clearly and hence to understand the real nature of something. (Wuest) translation of a Greek word referring to a sensitive moral perception, and a quickness of ethical tact. **IE:** saying the right thing in a way that encourages instead of hurtings. LOVE! Agape!!

Verse 10

Discern/approve GK: (Wuest) act of testing something for the purpose of approving it. Sift through and thoroughly test something to recognize its value and worth!

Best GK: Be empowered to judge between good better and best. **GK:** (Wuest) speaks of those things therefore that are superior, vital, that surpass, that excel

Pure GK: Sincere, pure, unsullied, free from spot or blemish to such a degree as to bear examination in the full splendor of the sun. (Zodhiates) Stature imperfections. Used wax to cover or hide them.

Blameless GK: from two words “not” and “strike”. Not able to be accused!

Day of Christ

Verse 11

Filled GK: cause something to become full. A bag of chips with NO air!

Fruit of righteousness Gal 5:22-23
Righteousness bears fruit! Grows things!

Glory Eph study we looked at how Jesus brings God Glory. Spirit give Jesus Glory which Jesus sends up to God. Man glorifies God.

Praise GK: to speak of the excellence of a person.

Applications for Us

1. I **thank** my God with every thought of you.
 - a. When people think of me, how do they view me?
 - b. Do they have a Positive or less than positive view of me?

2. I always pray with **JOY** about you!
 - a. Am I stuck in just the elementary truths as shared by the writer of Hebrews 6:1-3.
 - b. Am I growing in the grace and knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ.
 - c. How much joy does my growth in Christ bring to others?

3. The Love Discernment Relationship.
 - a. Is my agape love for others growing deeper in discernment and understanding?
 - b. How much ongoing growth is there in my discerning between what’s good, better, or best in my daily choices in life?