

Review:

Tremble and fear cause God Works in us to Will and Act according to his good pleasure and purpose.
 God of the universe is touching the World through us!

How receptive will people be to Him if believers are complaining & arguing?

Three Characters of this section:

Paul a slave and Apostle; **Timothy** the son & minister/pastor, **Epaphroditus** the brother, soldier and layman.

Verse 19 Confidence in Suffering

Hope GK: PIN Look forward to something good happening w/ confidence.

In Lord Jesus. What does this mean?

- Paul is trusting in the Lord’s timing and opening of doors.
- Paul does not make plans without Lord’s input and leading.
- Remember when Paul wanted to go into Asia? Spirit stopped him. Paul strong minded but did not go.

I also GK: Emphatic pronoun

Cheered/Comforted GK: (Vincent) from “well” & “soul”. (me) encouragement that leads to good cheer.)

GK: Present Subjunctive Active Paul in jail potentially on “death row”.

- Cheer and laughter are like a healing balm.
- EX: (Jeremiah): Terminally ill person. Decided to immerse his final days in laughter. Got Better.

3John 1:4 I have **no greater joy** than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.

- Paul’s very excited hoping, trusting, looking forward to hearing about their growth in Christ! Joy 4 him.
- How much joy does a believer’s well-being impact our mood?

Paul trusted Tim to bring back news! Travel from Rome to Philippi & then back was not like today! No planes!

In **our suffering**, should we tunnel vision on must our pain and misery?

Where do we find encouragement?

- The Lord
- In other’s walk too

Verse 20 Example Proven Character:

Have GK: Present Indicative At this moment, I have **NO ONE** like Tim!

No one else like him/kindred spirit From two **GK** words “**equal**” and “**soul**”

genuine GK: Good character and quality with pure motives.

Interest/concern GK: “**anxious**” “distracting concern” “devoted” word used to describe **Martha** being anxious.

Timothy

- Listened to believers!
 - Ever talk to a person and you notice they are not really paying attention?
 - Intent Listener actions:
- Looking after the interests of Jesus by serving the Philippians! **Phil 1:21!!!**
- This interest in others rather than himself ties into Paul’s initial statement in **Phil 2:4!**
 - **Matt 25:40** verse: what you have done for the least of these you have done for me!
 - Ephrahas **Col 4:12** Always wrestling on behalf of you! **Eph 2:10** – Saved to serve!

Verse 21 Everyone’s Focus

Connection between **1:21** and **2:21** Christ first!

Looks/seeks GK Try to advance themselves at expense of someone else. Contrast **Phil 2:4**

May appear to listen... only looking for how they can make your situation benefit themselves!

Own **interests** GK: business, necessities, needs.

- Timothy is living for Christ.
- Timothy is a contrast to the world.
- World takes note of all this!
- **Phil 1:27**

Verse 22 Tim's Character**Know** GK: be acquainted with and know about.

- Tim interacting with Philippians. Deep and intimate manner.
- Resurrection – 500 people.

Proved GK: (Zodhiates) Proof of (quality) genuineness and trustworthiness!

- Good Housekeeping Seal
- BBB

Served GK: Serve as if a slave but in a respectful humble way.**Timothy.**

- Tim prob converted on 1st missionary journey. Joined Paul after John Mark abandoned Paul. Lois and Eunice well known faith and impacted Timothy.

IMPORTANCE OF OUR LIFE WITNESS ON YOUNGER ONES.

- Works “with” not for father Paul. Paul considers him his son!
 - Think of how a little boy is like is Father’s shadow! Always trying to help!
 - He was not looking for fame and glory but only to bring Jesus into people’s lives!
- Timothy is mentioned 24x in Paul’s writings. That’s a LOT of mentioning!!!

Even though Paul in jail, he desires to send Timothy and Epaphroditus to Philippians for benefit of Philippians’ own faith. “**Sterling example** of selflessness”

Verse 23**Hope** GK: (Lowu) look forward with confidence to that which is good and beneficial.

- When everything is falling apart.
- When we don’t see the light at the end of the tunnel.
- What keeps us going?
- Where does Hope spring from?

Send GK: Be the force behind somebody going to a location.

- Tim is like a son to Paul
- Paul is like his Father
- Do you think Tim wants to leave Paul’s side?

See GK aorist **subjunctive** active**Verse 24****Confident/trust** GK: **perfect** indicative active Persuaded, (Lowu) to believe in something/one to the extent of placing reliance or trust in or on” **Phil 1:25** Same word used (Convinced)**In the Lord**

Col 3:15 – 16 Staying close to the Lord gives us a vision beyond our eyes.

Asia: Benefit of being submissive to the Lord? Paul saw “Man in Macedonia” vision!!

Myself GK: emphatic personal pronoun**SOON!!!**

(**McGee**) Tradition says that Paul was released from prison and had quite an itinerant ministry after this 1st Roman imprisonment, although this is not recorded in Scripture. When the Christians were persecuted under Nero, naturally Paul, the leader, was brought back and executed on his second Roman imprisonment.

Many in Caesars’ household impact... **Phil 4:22**

Verse 25 Who is Epaphroditus?**Epaphroditus** name means “charming”

- Personality that attracts people!
- Philippians selected Epaphroditus from everyone to take the letter and gift to Paul! Highly respected.

FOUR People Wrapped Up in One!**Split Personality??****Brother** GK “from the same womb”

- Paul was from a rich family. Silver spoon in his mouth. Well educated by top teachers of his time.
- Paul and he were on same level. **Eph 2:6**
- All believers are brothers and sisters in Christ!

Worker GK: One who works together with very well.

- Companion in labor!
- Rom 16:3, 9, 21; Phil 4:3; Philem 1, 24

Soldier GK: Person of ordinary rank. **I Cor 9:7** **II Tim 2:1-4** “please commanding officer not self or others”**Your Messenger** GK: (Vincent) “one sent forth”

- Whom do you trust your important messages for sharing?
- What are characteristics that make you choose a particular person?

Think GK: Carefully weighing the facts and have no doubt about required action.**Necessary** GK: “indispensable for an event to occur”

Indispensable for what?

Send GK: “make someone leave”

- Do you think Epaphroditus wanted to leave Paul’s side?

Care GK: Orig GK: one who discharged a public office at his own expense. Then Public Servant.**Needs** GK: (Lowu) “that which is lacking and particularly needed” in regard to Paul’s needs **Phil 4:18**Epaphroditus **was torn** between serving Paul and returning to his people. **Phil 1:21-23****Verse 26 Epaphroditus’ Feelings and Mindset****Longs** GK: Earnestly long for IE: Homesick to see them. GK: **Imperfect** tense & **Present** Active Participle.

- Epaphroditus was longing for them in the past and is still presently longing!

Distressed GK: to be faint with distress almost to the point of being overwhelmed. **Present** Active Participle

- Word was used of the Lord’s sorrow in Gethsemane
- Agape Love showing forth!

ill/Sick GK: Powerless weakened state of health.

Epaphroditus longs for people even though he was deathly sick.

- Was worried about Philippians being worried about him.
- When we are sick, do we worry about others or only focus on self?
- **Phil 2:4** mindset.

Verse 27**The Cost!!****(Next Door Neighbors!)****Point of Death:** Not busy when it was convenient for him or felt like it. He worked regularly! **Eph 4:11-12**

- Pretty sobering to me as I think about the **small "cost"** of my service to the Lord!
- How often does a little resistance stymie a believer’s service??
- 20% of the people do 80% of the work

Mercy GK: Kindness, mercy, and compassion. **I Cor 10:13****Sorrow** GK: (Lowu) a state of unhappiness marked by regret as a result of what has been done

God had mercy on Epaphroditus, but also on Paul!

- Did Paul heal Epaphroditus? Nopers
Paul knew Epaphroditus sick but couldn’t do NE thing to help. Peter healed people. Why didn’t Paul heal his friend?

Verse 28 Decreasing Anxiety**Eager** GK: Earnest diligence to do an activity**See** GK: aorist **subjunctive** active**Glad/Rejoice** GK: A state of happiness and gladness**Less Anxiety** GK: Free from sorrow and grief.

Paul had the weight of his daily concern for the church on him. Sending Epaphroditus ease burden Paul most concerned about Philippians' welfare rather than his own situation!

Verse 29 Parade!!**Welcome/Receive** GK: **Present** Imperative. Not once and done but ongoing

GK: Receive a person to yourself. Implies fellowship. Surround him with love and encouragement! Praise him!
(Wuest) "to **receive** to one's self, to **give access** to one's self."

Joy GK: A state of happiness and gladness What kind of JOY? GREAT**Great** GK: Idea of oneness. IE: Be one in welcoming him with unity and put your all into the welcome.**Honor** GK: Hold an **opinion** or view of honor as precious and dear.(Wuest) "to hold one dear or in honor, to value highly, to prize, to deem precious."**Men Like Him.** Paul says to follow his example as he follows Christ. **I Cor 11:1**

- Is Epaphroditus the only person to honor?
Who else should be honored?

Phil 2:14

- No Complaining
- No Arguing
- Phil 1:27 - 28

Verse 30 The Gamble!**Risk** GK: correlates to "gambling term".

- (Wuest) The word was used of brotherhoods who at the risk of their lives nursed the sick and buried the dead. Epaphroditus had recklessly exposed his life.
- Epaphroditus gambled his life to serve Paul! ALMOST DIED!!!
- Others could not travel to Rome. Epaph made the trip sacrificing his time and the expense.
- Doing something that costs us nothing is easy. David and worship on Mt Moriah.
- Doing that which costs us time, money, hardship offers much RICH blessing and **REWARD!**

Make Up for help you could not give.

- Monetary giving is nice, but giving of personal time is even more precious. I personally believe the rewards for giving of time are much higher than just giving money.
- Anybody can give money and then just move on, but giving of one's time takes more effort and a much higher level of investment!

3 Examples of 2:5-11

Paul

Timothy

Epaphroditus

Applications for Us

1. Confidence!

- a. Walking with the Lord keeping in close contact with him gives us confidence!
- b. Even in a Roman jail known for often resulting death, Paul was confident! Joy shouts out
- c. Rejoice and Joy is mention more in this book than any other book!
- d. I Cor 10:13

2. Who is our Timothy?

- a. Who are we investing our time in to disciple and develop their walk?
- b. Who is becoming like our “son” walking around as if they were our shadow?
- c. .

3. Parade!

- a. Verse 30: Welcome him in the Lord!
- b. Missionaries!
 - 1) Troops come home from war to a “ticker tate” parade!
 - 2) What do our missionaries come home to?
- c. What can we do to “to **receive** to one’s self, to **give access** to one’s self.” (Wuest).