

Joyful Thankfulness and Discerning Love

Philippians 1:1-11

1/14/21

Philippians 1:1 Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus,

to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi,

including the overseers and deacons:

²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in all my remembrance of you,

⁴always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all,

⁵in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now.

⁶For I am confident of this very thing,

that He who began a good work in you will perfect it

until the day of Christ Jesus.

⁷For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all,

because I have you in my heart,

since

both in my imprisonment

and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel,

you all are partakers of grace with me.

⁸For God is my witness, how I long for you all

with the affection of Christ Jesus.

⁹And this I pray, that your love may abound

still more and more

in real knowledge and all discernment,

¹⁰so that you may approve the things that are excellent,

in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ;

¹¹having been filled with the fruit of righteousness

which comes through Jesus Christ,

to the glory and praise of God.

Philippians 1:12 Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel,

- ¹³ so that my imprisonment in *the cause of* Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else,
- ¹⁴ and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.
- ¹⁵ Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will;
- ¹⁶ the latter *do it* out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel;
- ¹⁷ the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment.
- ¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice, yes, and I will rejoice.

- ¹⁹ For I know that this shall turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
- ²⁰ according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I shall not be put to shame in anything, but *that* with all boldness, Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.
- ²¹ For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
- ²² But if *I am* to live *on* in the flesh, this *will mean* fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose.
- ²³ But I am hard-pressed from both *directions*, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for *that* is very much better;
- ²⁴ yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake.
- ²⁵ And convinced of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith.
- ²⁶ so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.
- ²⁷ Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ; so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;
- ²⁸ in no way alarmed by *your* opponents-- which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that *too*, from God.
- ²⁹ For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,
- ³⁰ experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

Background

- **Acts 16:11** ...putting out to sea from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and on the day following to Neapolis;
- ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.
- ¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went outside the gate to a riverside, where we were supposing that there would be a place of prayer; and we sat down and began speaking to the women who had assembled.
- ¹⁴ And a certain woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul.
- ¹⁵ And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us.
- ¹⁶ And it happened that as we were going to the place of prayer, a certain slave-girl having a spirit of divination met us, who was bringing her masters much profit by fortunetelling.
- ¹⁷ Following after Paul and us, she kept crying out, saying, "These men are bond-servants of the Most High God, who are proclaiming to you the way of salvation."
- ¹⁸ And she continued doing this for many days. But Paul was greatly annoyed, and turned and said to the spirit, "I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her!" And it came out at that very moment.
- ¹⁹ But when her masters saw that their hope of profit was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the market place before the authorities,
- ²⁰ and when they had brought them to the chief magistrates, they said, "These men are throwing our city into confusion, being Jews,
- ²¹ and are proclaiming customs which it is not lawful for us to accept or to observe, being Romans."
- ²² And the crowd rose up together against them, and the chief magistrates tore their robes off them, and proceeded to order *them* to be beaten with rods.
- ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, commanding the jailer to guard them securely;
- ²⁴ and he, having received such a command, threw them into the inner prison, and fastened their feet in the stocks.

- ²⁵ But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns of praise to God, and the prisoners were listening to them;
- ²⁶ and suddenly there came a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison house were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's chains were unfastened.
- ²⁷ And when the jailer had been roused out of sleep and had seen the prison doors opened, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped.
- ²⁸ But Paul cried out with a loud voice, saying, "Do yourself no harm, for we are all here!"
- ²⁹ And he called for lights and rushed in and, trembling with fear, he fell down before Paul and Silas,
- ³⁰ and after he brought them out, he said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
- ³¹ And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you shall be saved, you and your household."
- ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him together with all who were in his house.
- ³³ And he took them that *very* hour of the night and washed their wounds, and immediately he was baptized, he and all his *household*.
- ³⁴ And he brought them into his house and set food before them, and rejoiced greatly, having believed in God with his whole household.
- ³⁵ Now when day came, the chief magistrates sent their policemen, saying, "Release those men."
- ³⁶ And the jailer reported these words to Paul, *saying*, "The chief magistrates have sent to release you. Now therefore, come out and go in peace."
- ³⁷ But Paul said to them, "They have beaten us in public without trial, men who are Romans, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they sending us away secretly? No indeed! But let them come themselves and bring us out."
- ³⁸ And the policemen reported these words to the chief magistrates. And they were afraid when they heard that they were Romans,
- ³⁹ and they came and appealed to them, and when they had brought them out, they kept begging them to leave the city.
- ⁴⁰ And they went out of the prison and entered *the house of* Lydia, and when they saw the brethren, they encouraged them and departed.

All Scripture is from the NASV. Our focus text, the scripture in the box, is in the form of a phrase by phrase break down. The words and word order have not been changed.