

Philippians 1 King James Version (KJV)

1 Paul and Timothy's, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

Paul is alone as he is nearing the end of the journey, on house arrest and transferred to the prison when another ruler (Tigellinus) came into power. Philippi unchurched non-religious and without tradition. (And speaking on the behalf of a co-laborer member of the team)

2 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. It appears they were clear on the message of the triune God. Paul chooses to put emphasis on "Grace and Peace" "Unmerited favor and its understanding creates peace - confident assurance of acceptance."

3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Paul does not begin the conversation of his "complaints" but speaks an edifying word. When ever think of my knowledge and interactions with you, I thank God.

4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, "What? Philippi was so refreshing to Paul, when he choose to pray for them it always brought about joy. Remember there was little religious traditional influence which much rejected Paul's preaching. There was no synagogue in Philippi- reminder of the old way of doing things!

5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; their progress and reputation was steady. They had an ongoing spirit led (koinonia) friendship- this is invaluable - the power to agree!

6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

1. When God begins something He has a specific purpose in mine and fully intends to finish what he started.
2. It's insulting to God to believe He would walk away from something He began.
3. After compelling us to count the cost wouldn't it be hypocritical of God knowing the future to begin something He could not foresee finishing?
4. This term is used to denote not only the work of salvation (no man can pluck you out of mine hand) but the work continues until the day of Jesus Christ

(Flounoy- Sampson-Fair-) You always build on someone else's labor. (The pattern of God) or find the foundation of the last endorsed work of God.

⁷ Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace.

1. Despite his condition he is carrying them in his heart
2. I gladly endure my afflictions (state later it's due to the message I carry)
3. Your lifestyle gives me a prototypical example of the reality of the Gospel and its redemptive work

⁸ For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.

- These salutations are not common social gestures of acknowledgements or a passing contemporary greeting, GOD IS MY RECORD - you can go to God and inquire of my genuine feelings of "agape" for you. "What Jesus was looking for in Peter I have for you. I sacrifice in hopes of edifying or building you up.

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment; there is no cutoff point. You are forever pursuing God. The journey doesn't end.

¹⁰ That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ.

'My pursuit of God gives me the ability to discern the difference in things. I can determine what is valuable and what is harmful. What will propel or what will derail or detain.

¹¹ Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God. My pursuit of God promises to develop the fruit of the spirit in my life which is the "Abundant Life" Galatians ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

¹² But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; " No one likes it but when we attempt to do the right thing and trouble or suffering results we "Should understand" God is going to make by design the result to produce fruit and purpose in your life and many involved.

¹³ So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places; we become ashamed and secretive about our despair and troubles and then God puts it "on blast" but for a reason. From this who witness your trouble

God's will reveal himself. The outcome we must determine to God but the act of trust is committed unto us.