

# PHILIPPIANS

*Believers ought to live righteously based on the example of Christ, by staying in harmony with each other, enduring suffering, and focusing on the righteousness we all have.*

Outline	GREETINGS, LIFE PURPOSE, AND GOAL FOR BELIEVERS (1)				THE CHRISTIAN LIFE YOU SHOULD HAVE (2)						PAUL & FUTURE GOAL FOR CHRISTIANS (3)			PUTTING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE TOGETHER (4)			
	Paul's Introduction (1-11)	Joy of Christ Preached (12-18)	Paul's Life for Christ (20-26)	Live as Citizens of Heaven (27-30)	Focus on Others (2:1-4)	Have the Same Attitude as Christ (2:5-11)	Shine Brightly for Christ (2:12-18)	Applause for Timothy (2:19-24)	Applause for Epaphroditus (2:25-30)	Paul's Heritage & Confidence (3:1-6)	Righteousness thru Christ (3:7-9)	Perfection Not Yet Reached (3:12-16)	Living as Citizens of Heaven (3:17-21)	Harmony & Joy Among Believers (4:1-5)	Instructions for Christian Life (4:6-9)	Paul's Gratefulness for the Little He Had (4:10-17)	Sacrifices and Security (4:18-23)
	<p><i>Greetings from Paul (1-4)</i></p> <p><i>Paul's thanksgiving and prayer (5-11)</i></p>	<p><i>Paul's imprisonment had been fruitful to spread the good news (12-14)</i></p> <p><i>Some people were preaching without pure motives (15-17)</i></p> <p><i>But, Paul didn't care about motives (18)</i></p>	<p><i>Paul would never be ashamed because he lived for Christ (20-21)</i></p> <p><i>Paul was torn between living and dying, but he wanted to live for the sake of the Philippians (22-24)</i></p> <p><i>Paul remained to help the Philippians and take joy in what Christ was doing through him (25-26)</i></p>	<p><i>Live as citizens of heaven as one body and don't be intimidated by enemies (27-28)</i></p> <p><i>A struggle given to share which they were in the midst of (29-30)</i></p>	<p><i>What is the result of Christ's work (1-2)?</i></p> <p><i>Be humble and look out for others (3-4)</i></p>	<p><i>Have the same attitude as Christ (5)</i></p> <p><i>He was God (6-7)</i></p> <p><i>He was also human (8)</i></p> <p><i>God elevated Jesus back up high for others to worship him (9-11)</i></p>	<p><i>Work hard for God is working in you (12-13)</i></p> <p><i>Don't complain, live cleanly, shine bright, and hold on to the word of life (14-16)</i></p> <p><i>Paul rejoiced because of his life poured out for others (17-18)</i></p>	<p><i>If God allowed, Paul hoped to send Timothy to Philippi (19-20)</i></p> <p><i>Others cared only for themselves but Timothy served others (21-22)</i></p> <p><i>Paul hoped to also visit Philippi (23-24)</i></p>	<p><i>Paul would send Epaphroditus to Philippi (25-27)</i></p> <p><i>Paul would send Epaphroditus cause he had risked his life (28-30)</i></p>	<p><i>Rejoice in the Lord Because of Christ's Work (1-3)</i></p> <p><i>Paul's Heritage and Strong Self-Confidence (4-6)</i></p> <p><i>Righteousness based on faith (7-9)</i></p> <p><i>Paul wanted to share in Christ's suffering and death (10-11)</i></p>	<p><i>Perfection not reached, but Paul continued on (12-14)</i></p> <p><i>Hold to the progress already made (15-16)</i></p>	<p><i>Pattern your life after Paul's life (17-21)</i></p> <p><i>Stay true to the LORD (1)</i></p> <p><i>Euodia &amp; Syntyche must settle disagreements (2-3)</i></p> <p><i>Always be full of joy and let others see it (4-5)</i></p> <p><i>Don't worry; pray and have peace (6-7)</i></p> <p><i>Focus your thoughts on excellent things worthy of praise (8-9)</i></p>	<p><i>Paul's gratitude for Philippian believers' concern for him (10)</i></p> <p><i>Paul learned to be content with what little he had (11-12)</i></p> <p><i>Paul could live without anything; yet still was grateful (13-14)</i></p> <p><i>Paul wanted the Philippians to receive a reward for their kindness to him (4:15-17)</i></p>	<p><i>Paul had all that he needed (18-19)</i></p> <p><i>All glory was to the Father (20)</i></p> <p><i>A Final Greetings (21-23)</i></p>			

**Themes**

**The Work & Result of Christ:** One of the messages about Christ in Philippians is that he will return again (1:6, 10; 3:20; 4:5). Additionally, Christ produces a righteous character seen as the fruit of salvation (1:11). Christ was the reason for the suffering of Paul and the Philippians (1:13, 29). Living should mean living for Christ by doing fruitful work (1:21-22, 27). The attitude of Christ was used as an example for what type of attitude the Philippian believers should have had. While Christ was God he did not hold on to it (2:6), but he gave up his divine privileges, took the position of a slave, and was born of a human being (2:7). In order to do the work God wanted him to do, he died a criminal's death on the cross (2:8). In that act, God elevated Jesus and gave him the name above all other names (2:9) in that every knee should bow and tongue should confess in heaven, on earth, and below earth would bow to him (2:10-11). Paul later explained that believers no longer rely on the Law and works for their righteousness, but instead they rely on what Christ has done (3:3, 7-9).

**Sanctification:** God began a good work in the Philippians and Paul said that work would continue (1:6). Paul wrote that he wanted Philippians to live pure and blameless lives until Christ's return (1:10) because righteous character brings glory and praise to God (1:11). Furthermore, the people of Philippi were supposed to live as citizens of heaven conducting themselves in a manner worthy of the good news of Christ (1:27). Several clear goals of sanctification are laid out in this letter: don't be selfish or try to impress others, be humble by thinking of others as better, don't look out for your own interests, but take interest in others too (2:3-4). Part of the work of sanctification is serving others for Christ (2:16) just as Timothy (2:21) and Epaphroditus (2:30) did. Paul no longer counted his own righteousness by obeying the Law, but instead counted himself as righteous by faith in Christ (3:9). With that said, Paul said he had not yet reached perfection, because he was reaching forward to that perfection (3:12). Paul encouraged the Philippians to pattern their lives after his (3:17). As citizens of heaven Christ would take the Philippians weak mortal bodies and make them into glorious bodies like Jesus' body (3:21). Paul's emphasis on sanctification continued into chapter for where he urged the Philippians to fix their thoughts on what was true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, and admirable (4:8).

**Paul's Imprisonment:** Paul started his letter to the Philippians stating that he and Timothy were slaves of Christ Jesus (1:1). Then, he told the Philippians that they held a special place in his heart because they shared in his imprisonment (1:7). Paul attributed all the things that happened to him to helping to spread the good news (1:12). Everyone knew that Paul was in chains because of Christ (1:13). Paul wanted the readers to know that believers gained confidence and boldly spoke God's message without fear because of Paul's imprisonment (1:14). Paul referenced that he was in the middle of his struggle and suffering (1:29-30).

**Suffering Because of Ministry:** The Philippians had a special place in Paul's heart because they shared with Paul in his imprisonment (1:7). Paul wrote that he was in chains (1:13) and prison (1:14) because of Christ. Later Paul said that him and the Philippians been given the privilege of knowing of Christ and suffering for him (1:29). And, that suffering was a struggle which Paul and the Philippians both had knowledge of (1:30). In addition to the suffering Paul and the Philippians were encountering, Paul mentioned that Epaphroditus had risked his life for the work of Christ to the point of death (2:30). Nearing the end of Paul's letter he wrote that he wanted to suffer with Jesus sharing in Jesus' death (3:10) and that the Philippians were sharing with Paul (in some way) with his present difficulty (4:14).