

# **P.T. BIBLE SURVEY**

## **The Epistle of Paul to the Philippians**

# THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

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- Philippians is the epistle of joy and encouragement in the midst of adverse circumstances. Paul lovingly urges the church in Philippi to center their actions and thoughts on the pursuit of the Person and power of Christ.
- Who wrote it?
  - Paul is the writer of this epistle with some assistance from Timothy (1:1).

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  - Around A.D. 60-63.

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## ◉ Surrounding Circumstances:

- Philippians is the second of four “Prison Epistles” written by Paul. The others are Ephesians, Colossians and Philemon.
- Instead of writing to correct doctrinal matters, Paul writes a “thank you” letter to the church at Philippi that had been so generous in supporting him.

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## ◎ Key Term: Joy

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## ◎ Location of Events:

- Paul wrote Philippians from a prison in Rome approximately 800 miles away from the city of Philippi.
- Epaphroditus delivered Paul’s letter from Rome to Philippi (Phil. 2:25).

# THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

## Overview of the Acts of the Apostles



"And ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth." (Acts 1:8)



# THE OUTLINE OF PHILIPPIANS

## I. Paul's Present Circumstances (Chap. 1)

- Paul's Prayer of Thanksgiving (1:1-11)
- Paul's Afflictions Promote the Gospel (1:12-18)
- Paul's Afflictions Exalt the Lord (1:19-26)
- Paul's Exhortation to the Afflicted (1:27-30)

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## II. Paul's Appeal to Have the Mind of Christ (Chap. 2)

- Paul's Exhortation to Humility (2:1-4)
- Christ's Example of Humility (2:5-16)
- Paul's Examples of Humility (2:17-30)

# THE OUTLINE OF PHILIPPIANS

## III. Paul's Appeal to Have the Knowledge of Christ (Chap. 3)

- Warning Against Confidence in the Flesh (3:1-9)
- Exhortation to Know Christ (3:10-16)
- Warning Against Living for the Flesh (3:17-21)

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## IV. Paul's Appeal to Have the Peace of Christ (Chap. 4)

- Peace with the Brethren (4:1-3)
- Peace with the Lord (4:4-9)
- Peace in All Circumstances (4:10-19)
- Conclusion (4:20-23)

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- ◎ Summary in one sentence:
  - Knowing Jesus Christ is much more joyful and important than anything else because God has exalted Jesus, the crucified Servant, with the name above every name.

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  - Knowing Jesus Christ is much more joyful and important than anything else because God has exalted Jesus, the crucified Servant, with the name above every name.
- ◎ Summary in 10 words or less:
  - “Friendship letter” between the apostle Paul and a beloved church.

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## ◎ Cast of Characters:

- **Paul:** called to the defense of the gospel
- **Timothy:** will soon visit Philippi (2:19)
- **Men who do evil:** Paul warns against them (3:2)
- **Euodia, Syntyche:** Paul wishes these disputing women would resolve their issue (4:2)
- **Clement:** a worker who Paul says his name is written in the Book of Life (4:3)
- **The Philippians:** Paul's first European supporters

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## Verse to Remember

**“I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.”**

**(Philippians 3:14)**



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## ◉ Interesting Facts:

- **Philippians has four chapters, and each chapter has a major theme.**
  - Chapter 1 - **Christ is our LIFE. (1:21)**
  - Chapter 2 - **Christ is our EXAMPLE. (2:5)**
  - Chapter 3 - **Christ is our HOPE. (3:7)**
  - Chapter 4 - **Christ is our STRENGTH AND SOURCE OF SUPPLY. (4:13)**
- **Paul's "Macedonian Call" in Acts 16 led him to his work in Philippi. The first converts on the continent of Europe were Lydia and her household (Acts 16:14, 15).**

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- What is my take away?
  - Paul encourages us to be like Christ, the humble servant, and to never be satisfied with our accomplishments; always pressing for more in God.

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## ◉ Home Study

- Read a couple chapters daily in Colossians this week.
- Review your One-Sentence Summaries.
- Recite your memory verses.