

# Philippians

01 – Introduction

## Points to Consider

1. Background
2. Themes
3. Looking Forward

## Background

### Acts 16:9-13

Paul saw a vision with a man from \_\_\_\_\_ pleading with him to come to and preach to the people in that region.

The first city in Macedonia where Paul preached was Philippi.

The timing of this visit was around \_\_\_\_\_ AD, fifteen years after his conversion in 35 AD. (All dates are approximate)

### Acts 16:13-16

The first recorded convert in Philippi was \_\_\_\_\_, a seller of purple, who was praying by the riverside.

After she was \_\_\_\_\_ she begged Paul and his companions to stay at her house. Paul agreed.

### Acts 16:16-24

Paul and Silas were \_\_\_\_\_ and thrown in prison after casting an evil spirit out of a young girl who was being used by some men to make a profit through fortune-telling.

### Acts 16:25-34

The chief jailer was so impressed that Paul and Silas voluntarily remained in prison, even after an earthquake gave them the opportunity to escape, he asked them what he needed to do to be \_\_\_\_\_.

Paul told him that he and his household needed to \_\_\_\_\_ on the Lord Jesus Christ to be saved.

He and his family believed and were immediately \_\_\_\_\_.

### 2 Cor 11:22-29

Paul writes the letter of 2 Corinthians in \_\_\_\_\_ AD, six years after visiting Philippi and 5-6 years before writing the Philippian letter.

Sufficient to say, Paul has had a \_\_\_\_\_ journey as a follower of Jesus Christ.

**Acts 9:13-16** *Then Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem. 14 And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name." 15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. 16 For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake." NKJV*

The fact that Paul was going to suffer \_\_\_\_\_ things for the name of Jesus Christ was communicated to Paul when he was converted to Him.

**Acts 28:16** Now when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard; but Paul was permitted to dwell by himself with the soldier who guarded him. ... 30 Then Paul dwelt two whole years in his own rented house, and received all who came to him, 31 preaching the kingdom of God and teaching the things which concern the Lord Jesus Christ with all confidence, no one forbidding him.

Paul was in a Roman prison, \_\_\_\_\_ of his future on this earth, when he wrote the book of Philippians.

**Phil 1:27-30** Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel, 28 and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God. 29 For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, 30 having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me. NKJV

Paul did not suffer alone. The Philippians were also suffering for \_\_\_\_\_.

## Themes

### Joy

**Philippians 1:4; Philippians 1:18; Philippians 1:25; Philippians 2:2; Philippians 2:16; Philippians 2:28; Phil 3:1-3; Philippians 4:1; Philippians 4:4**

Paul joyfully made \_\_\_\_\_ for them in prayer.

They were all to rejoice in the \_\_\_\_\_.

They rejoiced at the thought of being \_\_\_\_\_ again with people they loved.

The Philippians were a great \_\_\_\_\_ of joy for Paul.

### Thankfulness

**Phil 1:3-5; Phil 4:10-16**

Paul was thankful that the Philippians had \_\_\_\_\_ with him in the Gospel since Lydia accepted the good news of Jesus Christ and was baptized.

**Phil 4:6-7**

Paul told the Philippians to be thankful when making their \_\_\_\_\_ known to God.

### Unity

**Phil 2:1-4** Christian unity was important to Paul because it is important to \_\_\_\_\_.

## Looking Forward

As we study the book of Philippians together we will learn:

1. How to be joyful in the middle of persecution and suffering.
2. How to be thankful in everything.
3. How a group of people with great differences can be united in Christ.
4. How to eliminate the things that hinder our unity and peace.

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