

Philippians: Partnership Worthy of the Gospel



Stand Firm for and Humbly United around the Gospel

Paul's Connection with the Philippian Church

1. The Church was started by Paul on his 2nd journey (Acts 16:1-15).
2. Paul was put in prison there and released (Acts 16:16-40).
3. Paul visited Philippi on his 3rd journey raising relief funds for the Judean church (Acts 20:1-2).
4. In 2 Corinthians 8:1-7 Paul uses the generosity of the Philippian church to motivate the Corinthian church to be generous like them.
5. They desire to help Paul in prison (Phil 4:10).
6. They send gifts to Rome by Epaphroditus (Phil 4:18).
7. They may have ask for Timothy to visit them (Phil 2:19-24).
8. Paul writes this epistle and sends it with Epaphroditus and keeps Timothy with him (Phil 2:19-25).

Philippians Themes

1. Partnership/Sharing - κοινωνία (1:5,6; 2:1; 3:10; 4:15)
2. Joy - Rejoice (1:4,18,25,26; 2:2,17,18,29; 3:1; 4:1,4,10)
3. Peace (1:2; 4:7,9)
4. Citizenship (1:27; 3:20)
5. Prominent use of Examples:
 - Christ (2:5-11)
 - Timothy (2:19-24)
 - Epaphroditus (2:25-30)
 - Paul (3:4-21)
6. Thinking correctly (1:7; 2:2,5; 3:15,19;4:10)
7. Consider (various terms) (2:3,4,6;3:8,13,17;4:8)

Personal Partnership Remembered				Doctrinal Partnership Encouraged		Practical Partnership Portrayed					
<p>Epistolary Prescript: Partners Writing to Friends with Blessings</p> <p>Thanksgiving and Prayer</p> <p>Partnership Theme Introduced in Thanksgiving (1:3-6)</p> <p>Partnership Theme Expanded in Affection (1:7-8)</p> <p>Biographical Prologue: The Priority of the Gospel</p> <p>Circumstances: In Prison Preaching (1:12-17)</p> <p>• The Advance of the Gospel (1:12-14) • Blessings and Adversity (1:15-17)</p> <p>Attitude: Rejoicing in Life or Death (1:18-26)</p> <p>• Rejoicing in Deliverance or Death (1:18-24) • Confident of Ministry (1:25-26)</p> <p>Main Idea: Live a life worthy of the gospel by standing firm in one spirit.</p> <p>• Walk worthy of the gospel (2:27a). • Stand firm in unity (2:27b-28).</p> <p>• We all share in Christ's suffering (2:29-30).</p>				<p>Standing Together: A Worthy Partnership is Unified (2:1-30)</p> <p>Principle: Unity grows out of humility (2:1-4).</p> <p>Follow the example of Christ's humility (2:5-11).</p> <p>Principle: Work out your salvation in unity (2:12-18).</p> <p>Follow the example of Timothy's humility (2:19-24).</p> <p>Follow the Example of Epaphroditus's humility (2:25-30).</p> <p>Standing Firm: A Worthy Partnership is Steadfast (3:1-21)</p> <p>Exhortation: Stand firm for the true gospel of grace (3:1-3).</p> <p>Follow the example of Paul's gospel-centered living (3:4-21).</p> <p>Past: No Value in Past Achievements (3:4-6)</p> <p>Present: All Value in Knowing Christ (3:7-11)</p> <p>Future: Living as Heavenly Citizens (3:12-21)</p> <p>Summary: Stand firm in the Lord (4:1).</p>		<p>Application: Stand Unified in the Truth. (4:2-9).</p> <p>Euodia & Syntyche: Stand together (4:2-3).</p> <p>Rejoice in the truth of Christ which leads to peace (4:4-9).</p> <p>Application: Partnership Appreciated (4:10-20)</p> <p>Thanksgiving for Their Financial Gift (4:10)</p> <p>Contentment in every Circumstance (4:11-13)</p> <p>Thanksgiving for Their Consistent Support (4:14-19)</p>					
1:1-2	1:3	1:11	1:12	1:26	1:27	1:30	2:1	4:1	4:2	4:19	4:20-23
Introduction				Body				Conclusion			
Prescript	Exordium	Narratio		Propositio		Probatio (Development and Defense)				Peroratio	Postscript

While in prison, Paul wrote to the church at Philippi out of an intense personal concern for them thanking them for their consistent participation in his ministry and exhorting them to walk worthy of the Gospel by living in humble unity and gospel-centered steadfastness in order to encourage the church and strengthen their commitment to a unified commitment to the Gospel of Jesus Christ.