Paul's Letter to the Philippians

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Jesus Christ,† to
all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi,
with the overseers‡ and servants:§ 2 Grace to you
and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.
3 I thank my God whenever I remember you,
4 always in every request of mine on behalf of
you all, making my requests with joy, 5 for your
partnership† in furtherance of the Good News
from the first day until now; 6 being confident of
this very thing, that he who began a good work in
you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.
7 It is even right for me to think this way on behalf
of all of you, because I have you in my heart,
because both in my bonds and in the defence and
confirmation of the Good News, you all are partakers with me of grace. 8 For God is my witness,
how I long after all of you in the tender mercies of
Christ Jesus.
9 This I pray, that your love may abound yet
more and more in knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve the things that
are excellent, that you may be sincere and without
offence to the day of Christ, 11 being filled with the

† **1:1:** "Christ" means "Anointed One". ‡ **1:1:** or, superintendents, or bishops § **1:1:** Or, deacons † **1:5:** The word translated "partnership" (κοινωνίᾳ) also means "fellowship" and "sharing".

fruits of righteousness which are through Jesus
Christ, to the glory and praise of God.
12 Now I desire to have you know, brothers,‡
that the things which happened to me have turned
out rather to the progress of the Good News, 13 so
that it became evident to the whole palace§ guard,
and to all the rest, that my bonds are in Christ,
14 and that most of the brothers in the Lord, be-
ing confident through my bonds, are more abun-
dantly bold to speak the word of God without
fear. 15 Some indeed preach Christ even out of
envy and strife, and some also out of good will.
16 The former insincerely preach Christ from self-
ish ambition, thinking that they add affliction to
my chains; 17 but the latter out of love, knowing
that I am appointed for the defence of the Good
News.
18 What does it matter? Only that in every
way, whether in pretence or in truth, Christ is
proclaimed. I rejoice in this, yes, and will rejoice.
19 For I know that this will turn out to my salva-
tion through your prayers and the supply of the
Spirit of Jesus Christ, 20 according to my earnest
expectation and hope, that I will in no way be
disappointed, but with all boldness, as always,
now also Christ will be magnified in my body,
whether by life or by death. 21 For to me to live
is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I live on
in the flesh, this will bring fruit from my work;

‡ **1:12:** The word for "brothers" here and where context allows may also be correctly translated "brothers and sisters" or "siblings." § **1:13:** or, praetorian

yet I don't know what I will choose. 23 But I am
hard pressed between the two, having the desire
to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.
24 Yet to remain in the flesh is more needful for
your sake. 25 Having this confidence, I know that I
will remain, yes, and remain with you all for your
progress and joy in the faith, 26 that your boasting†
may abound in Christ Jesus in me through my
presence with you again.

27 Only let your way of life be worthy of the Good
News of Christ, that whether I come and see you
or am absent, I may hear of your state, that you
stand firm in one spirit, with one soul striving
for the faith of the Good News; 28 and in nothing
frightened by the adversaries, which is for them a
proof of destruction, but to you of salvation, and
that from God. 29 Because it has been granted to
you on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in him,
but also to suffer on his behalf, 30 having the same
conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in
me.

2

1 If therefore there is any exhortation in Christ,
if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of
the Spirit, if any tender mercies and compassion,
2 make my joy full by being like-minded, having
the same love, being of one accord, of one mind;
3 doing nothing through rivalry or through con-
ceit, but in humility, each counting others better
than himself; 4 each of you not just looking to his

† **1:26:** or, rejoicing

own things, but each of you also to the things of others.

5 Have this in your mind, which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, existing in the form of God, didn't consider equality with God a thing to be grasped, 7 but emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in human form, he humbled himself, becoming obedient to the point of death, yes, the death of the cross. 9 Therefore God also highly exalted him, and gave to him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

12 So then, my beloved, even as you have always obeyed, not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. 13 For it is God who works in you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

14 Do all things without complaining and arguing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without defect in the middle of a crooked and perverse generation, amongst whom you are seen as lights in the world, 16 holding up the word of life, that I may have something to boast in the day of Christ that I didn't run in vain nor labour in vain. 17 Yes, and if I am poured out on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 In

the same way, you also should be glad and rejoice
with me.
19 But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy
to you soon, that I also may be cheered up when I
know how you are doing. 20 For I have no one else
like-minded, who will truly care about you. 21 For
they all seek their own, not the things of Jesus
Christ. 22 But you know that he has proved him-
self. As a child serves a father, so he served with
me in furtherance of the Good News. 23 Therefore
I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how
it will go with me. 24 But I trust in the Lord that I
myself also will come shortly.
25 But I thought it necessary to send to you
Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, fellow
soldier, and your apostle and servant of my need,
26 since he longed for you all, and was very trou-
bled because you had heard that he was sick.
27 For indeed he was sick nearly to death, but God
had mercy on him, and not on him only, but on
me also, that I might not have sorrow on sorrow.
28 I have sent him therefore the more diligently,
that when you see him again, you may rejoice, and
that I may be the less sorrowful. 29 Receive him
therefore in the Lord with all joy, and hold such
people in honour, 30 because for the work of Christ
he came near to death, risking his life to supply
that which was lacking in your service towards
me.

3

1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord! To
write the same things to you, to me indeed is not

tiresome, but for you it is safe.

2 Beware of the dogs; beware of the evil work-
ers; beware of the false circumcision. 3 For we
are the circumcision, who worship God in the
Spirit, and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no
confidence in the flesh; 4 though I myself might
have confidence even in the flesh. If any other
man thinks that he has confidence in the flesh,
I yet more: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the
stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a He-
brew of Hebrews; concerning the law, a Phar-
isee; 6 concerning zeal, persecuting the assembly;
concerning the righteousness which is in the law,
found blameless.

7 However, I consider those things that were
gain to me as a loss for Christ. 8 Yes most certainly,
and I count all things to be a loss for the excellency
of the knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord, for
whom I suffered the loss of all things, and count
them nothing but refuse, that I may gain Christ
9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness
of my own, that which is of the law, but that
which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness
which is from God by faith, 10 that I may know
him and the power of his resurrection, and the
fellowship of his sufferings, becoming conformed
to his death, 11 if by any means I may attain to
the resurrection from the dead. 12 Not that I have
already obtained, or am already made perfect;
but I press on, that I may take hold of that for
which also I was taken hold of by Christ Jesus.

13 Brothers, I don't regard myself as yet having
taken hold, but one thing I do: forgetting the

things which are behind and stretching forward
to the things which are before, 14 I press on to-
wards the goal for the prize of the high calling of
God in Christ Jesus. 15 Let us therefore, as many
as are perfect, think this way. If in anything you
think otherwise, God will also reveal that to you.
16 Nevertheless, to the extent that we have already
attained, let's walk by the same rule. Let's be of the
same mind.

17 Brothers, be imitators together of me, and
note those who walk this way, even as you have
us for an example. 18 For many walk, of whom
I told you often, and now tell you even weeping,
as the enemies of the cross of Christ, 19 whose
end is destruction, whose god is the belly, and
whose glory is in their shame, who think about
earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven,
from where we also wait for a Saviour, the Lord
Jesus Christ, 21 who will change the body of our
humiliation to be conformed to the body of his
glory, according to the working by which he is
able even to subject all things to himself.

4

1 Therefore, my brothers, beloved and longed
for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in
this way, my beloved.

2 I exhort Euodia, and I exhort Syntyche, to think
the same way in the Lord. 3 Yes, I beg you also, true
partner, help these women, for they laboured with
me in the Good News with Clement also, and the
rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the
book of life.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always! Again I will say,
"Rejoice!" 5 Let your gentleness be known to all
men. The Lord is at hand. 6 In nothing be anxious,
but in everything, by prayer and petition with
thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to
God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all
understanding, will guard your hearts and your
thoughts in Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brothers, whatever things are true,
whatever things are honourable, whatever things
are just, whatever things are pure, whatever
things are lovely, whatever things are of good re-
port: if there is any virtue and if there is anything
worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 Do the
things which you learnt, received, heard, and saw
in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

10 But I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now
at length you have revived your thought for me;
in which you did indeed take thought, but you
lacked opportunity. 11 Not that I speak because
of lack, for I have learnt in whatever state I am,
to be content in it. 12 I know how to be humbled,
and I also know how to abound. In any and all
circumstances I have learnt the secret both to be
filled and to be hungry, both to abound and to
be in need. 13 I can do all things through Christ
who strengthens me. 14 However you did well that
you shared in my affliction. 15 You yourselves also
know, you Philippians, that in the beginning of the
Good News, when I departed from Macedonia, no
assembly shared with me in the matter of giving
and receiving but you only. 16 For even in Thessa-
lonica you sent once and again to my need. 17 Not

that I seek for the gift, but I seek for the fruit that
increases to your account. 18 But I have all things
and abound. I am filled, having received from
Epaphroditus the things that came from you, a
sweet-smelling fragrance, an acceptable and well-
pleasing sacrifice to God. 19 My God will supply
every need of yours according to his riches in
glory in Christ Jesus. 20 Now to our God and Father
be the glory forever and ever! Amen.

21 Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brothers
who are with me greet you. 22 All the saints
greet you, especially those who are of Caesar's
household.

23 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you
all. Amen.

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