

Expanded Analysis of
PHILIPPIANS

Exegetical Theme:
"PAUL'S THANKFUL, JOYFUL APPEAL FOR THE HUMILITY AND KNOWLEDGE OF
CHRIST ALONG WITH UNITY AND PEACE"

Popular Theme:
"JOY IN JAIL"

Key Verses:

"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Philippians 1:21

"Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus" Philippians 2:5 (NAS)

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice! Philippians 4:4 (NAS)

Prepared by James T. Bartsch
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WordExplain.com
P. O. Box 527
Cottonwood Falls, Kansas 66845
Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

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A 1 THE PRELIMINARY MATTERS 1:1-30

B 1 The Personal Interaction with the Philippians 1:1-11

C 1 Paul and Timothy's gracious greeting to the church and leaders in Philippi 1:1-2

D 1 The writers 1:1a

E 1 Their identity: Paul and Timothy,

E 2 Their self-characterization: bond-servants of Christ Jesus,

D 2 The addressees 1:1b

E 1 The church: To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi,

E 2 The leaders: including the overseers and deacons:

D 3 The blessing

E 1 The nature of the blessing

G 1 Grace to you

G 2 and peace

E 2 The source of the blessing

- G 1 from God our Father
- G 2 and the Lord Jesus Christ.
- C 2 Paul's positive attitude toward the Philippians 1:3-11
 - D 1 **Thankfulness:** His joyful thanks to God for their participation in the gospel 1:3-5
 - E 1 His declaration of his thankfulness to God for them: I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 1:3
 - E 2 His attitude of joy: always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, 1:4
 - E 3 The reason for his thankfulness -- their unswerving participation in the good news: in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. 1:5
 - D 2 **Confidence:** His confidence that God will perfect the work begun in them: *For I am* confident of this very thing, 1:6
 - E 1 God's work begun: that He who began a good work in you
 - E 2 Is God's work completed: will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.¹
 - D 3 **Affection:** His longing affection in Christ for them 1:7-8
 - E 1 His justification of his gratefulness for them: For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, 1:7
 - G 1 Their place in his heart: because I have you in my heart,
 - G 2 Their gracious participation with him in ministry
 - H 1 since both in my imprisonment
 - H 2 and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers² of grace with me. 1:7
 - E 2 The fervency of his affection for them: For God is my

¹ 1:6 - will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus: Paul makes here a strong case for eternal security!

² 1:7 - partakers: Apparently somehow the Philippians served him in his imprisonment, perhaps by sending letters and visitors, who brought with them some money or items for his physical comfort. However, if this were true, surely Paul would have mentioned it. More likely, then, they helped him vicariously, through prayer, and more specifically by encouraging him through their continued sharing of the gospel with others and by themselves remaining steadfast in the faith.

witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus, 1:8

D 4 **Prayerfulness:** His prayer that their love may abound in discernment so they may be blameless until the day of Christ: And this I pray, 1:9-11

E 1 That their love might grow: that your love may abound still more and more 1:9

G 1 in real knowledge

G 2 and all discernment,

E 2 Leading to an increased exercise of discernment: so that you may approve the things that are excellent, 1:10a

E 3 Leading to faultlessness at Christ's return: in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; 1:10b

E 4 Produced by righteousness which comes from Christ: having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, 1:11a

E 5 Leading to God's glory: to the glory and praise of God. 1:11b

B 2 The Personal Report to the Philippians 1:12-26

C 1 Paul's joyful report that his circumstances have resulted in the progress of the gospel 1:12-18

D 1 The widespread knowledge of Paul's imprisonment for the cause of Christ 1:12-13

E 1 The spread of the gospel: Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, 1:12

E 2 The reason for Paul's imprisonment: so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well-known 1:13

G 1 throughout the whole praetorian guard

G 2 and to everyone else,

D 2 The resultant spreading of the gospel 1:14-18

E 1 The encouraging of most brethren to speak the word of God without fear 1:14

G 1 The faith of the brothers: and that most of the

- brethren, trusting in the Lord
- G 2 The factor of Paul's imprisonment: because of my imprisonment,
- G 3 The courage of the brothers: have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.
- E 2 The motives of the gospel-sharers 1:15-17
 - G 1 The mixture of envy of some; good will of others 1:15
 - H 1 Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife,
 - H 2 but some also from good will
 - G 2 The motivation of love by those of good will 1:16
 - H 1 Their motivation: The latter do it out of love,
 - H 2 Their knowledge: knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel;
 - G 3 The motivation of causing Paul greater affliction by the envious 1:17
 - H 1 The selfish motives of some: the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition,
 - H 2 Their insincerity: rather than from pure motives,
 - H 3 Their sinister objective: thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment.
- E 3 Paul's continuing rejoicing that Christ is proclaimed regardless of motives 1:18
 - G 1 The fact: What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed
 - G 2 The joy: and in this I rejoice, yes, and I will rejoice.
- C 2 Paul's conviction about his future release 1:19-26
 - D 1 His assurance of his deliverance 1:19
 - E 1 His assurance: For I know that this shall turn out for my

- deliverance ³
- E 2 The means of accomplishment
 - G 1 Human effort: through your prayers ⁴
 - G 2 Divine effort: and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
 - D 2 His expectation that Christ will be exalted in his body, whether by life or death 1:20-21
 - E 1 Paul's anticipation of not being ashamed about Christ: according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I shall not be put to shame in anything, 1:20
 - E 2 His desire for boldness about Christ: but that with all boldness, 1:20
 - E 3 His desire to exalt Christ by his existence: Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, 1:20
 - G 1 whether by life
 - G 2 or by death.
 - E 4 His personal philosophy about life and death: For to me, 1:21
 - G 1 to live is Christ,
 - G 2 and to die is gain.
 - D 3 His tension between staying on earth for fruitful labor and departing this life to be with Christ 1:22-24
 - E 1 The benefit of continuing to live: But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; 1:22a
 - E 2 His ambivalence about living and dying 1:22b-23
 - G 1 The statement of his ambivalence: and I do not know which to choose. 1:22b
 - G 2 The inner tension he faces: But I am hard-pressed

³ 1:19 - deliverance: Gk. σωτηρια. This may possibly refer rather to his ultimate salvation and rewards rather than his release from prison.

⁴ 1:19 - through your prayers: It is exciting to know that our prayers help accomplish things. To be sure, nothing would be done without God's work. On the other hand, He has declared that our prayers shall be part of the equation of Divine accomplishment!

from both directions, 1:23

H 1 Dying is better for him: having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better; 1:23

H 2 Living is better for them: yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. 1:24

D 4 His conviction of the necessity of his staying on earth to help the Philippians be joyful in their growing faith 1:25-26

E 1 His assurance of living: And convinced of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all 1:25

G 1 for your progress

G 2 and joy in the faith.

E 2 His assurance of seeing them again: so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again. 1:26

B 3 The Personal Challenge to Walk Worthy of the Gospel 1:27-30

C 1 His desire to hear that they strive together in unity for the faith of the gospel 1:27

D 1 The charge to live a worthy life: Only conduct yourselves ⁵ in a manner worthy of the **gospel** of Christ; ⁶

D 2 The location of Paul: so that whether I come and see you or remain absent,

D 3 The desired report: I may hear of you

E 1 that you are standing firm ⁷ in one spirit,

⁵ 1:27 - conduct yourselves: "let your conversation be" (KJV) (4176, *politeuomai*) -- to live as a (good) citizen, availing oneself of and conforming to the laws of the land. JTB, adapted from On-line Bible.

⁶ 1:27 - in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ: Worthily of the good news from and about Christ they are to live as good citizens here on the earth. That includes the concepts that they will be in the process of standing firm in one (S)(s)pirit, with one soul striving together for the faith of the good news.

⁷ 1:27 - you are standing firm: (*stekete*, PIA, 2 pl from *steko*, 4739). Here, Paul hopes he will hear that they are in the process of standing firm in one spirit, in one soul striving together for the faith of the good news. The emphasis seems to be one of standing firm in unity, guided by the Holy Spirit.

Other uses:

2 Thess. 2:15 So then, brethren, **stand firm** and hold to the traditions which you were taught, whether by word of mouth or by letter from us.

1 Cor. 16:13 Be on the alert, **stand firm** in the faith, act like men, be strong.

- E 2 with one mind striving together ⁸ for the faith ⁹ of the **gospel**;
- C 2 Coping with suffering -- His reminder that opponents serve as a sign of their own destruction and the Philippians' salvation 1:28
 - D 1 Rebuffing antagonism: in no way alarmed ¹⁰ by your opponents ¹¹
 - D 2 Understanding antagonism
 - E 1 which is a sign ¹² of destruction ¹³ for them,

Gal. 5:1 It was for freedom that Christ set us free; therefore **keep standing firm** and do not be subject again to a yoke of slavery.

Php. 4:1 Therefore, my beloved brethren ... so **stand firm** in the Lord

1 Thess. 3:8 for now we really live, if you **stand firm** in the Lord.

⁸ 1:27 - striving together: (*sunathleo* 4866), to strive at the same time with another, from the verb *athleo* (118), to engage in a contest, contend in public games, contend for a prize. *Athleo* has the idea of competing vigorously in a game. *Sunathleo* means that you are teammates, competing for a common goal, here emphasized by the inclusion of "with one mind!" Of course, the goal here is the faith (or truth?) of the gospel. In the only other occurrence of this word, Paul asks one of the Philippian brothers to help Euodia and Syntyche, women who have competed (as teammates alongside) with Paul in the cause of the gospel (Php. 4:3).

⁹ 1:27 - faith of the gospel: What does this mean? Are they to strive together with unanimity so that they themselves believe in the gospel? [But don't they already believe in the gospel?] Or are they to strive so that *others* believe the gospel?

¹⁰ 1:28 - alarmed: *pturomenoi*, "terrified," (Pres. Pass. Ptcpl. NMP from *pturo*, 4426, meaning to terrify.) NAS, "in no way alarmed." This word is closely related to *ptuo*, a primary verb meaning "to spit." We have an interesting expression, "scared spitless," which may have something in common. The connection may be that just as the spit suddenly leaves one's mouth, a scared Roman would take off running if he were terrified.

¹¹ 1:28 - opponents: (*antikeimenon* - Pres. Ptcpl, Gen. MP from [*antikeimai* 480] middle voice): lit., to be laid down against or set against. Bagster: To occupy an opposite position. This is a deliberate action of opposition.

¹² 1:28 - sign: (1732 *endeixis*) "demonstration, proof: i.e. manifestation made by act, i.e. sign evidence" (On-Line Bible). In 2 Cor. 8, Paul is urging the Corinthians to make good on their earlier willingness to give money to the poor Jewish Christians in Jerusalem. He says, "Therefore openly before the churches show them the **proof** of your love and of our reason for boasting about you." (2 Cor. 8:24).

¹³ 1:28 - destruction: (684 *apoleia*) - complete destruction. Sometimes referring to the wasting of something precious (Mark 14:3-4 - 3 And while He was in Bethany at the home of Simon the leper, and reclining at the table, there came a woman with an alabaster vial of very costly perfume of pure nard; and she broke the vial and poured it over His head. 4 But some were indignantly remarking to one another, "Why has this perfume been **wasted**?") or of money (Acts 8:18-20 18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 But Peter said to him, "May your silver **perish** with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!") or physical death by execution (Acts 25:16 KJV only - To whom I answered, "It is not the manner of Romans to deliver any man to **die** before that he which is accused have the accusers face to face, and have license to answer for himself concerning the crime laid against him."), but more often of eternal human destruction (as in Heb. 10:39 - But we are not of those who shrink back to **destruction**, but of those who have faith to the preserving of the soul.) and in 2 Pet. 3:7 - But the present heavens and earth by His word are being reserved for fire, kept for the day of judgment and **destruction** of ungodly men.). In each case the commodity or substance or person is completely destroyed with nothing left to salvage.

E 2 but of salvation ¹⁴ for you, and that too, from God.

C 3 The universality of suffering: His reminder that suffering is required for believers 1:29

D 1 The authorization of suffering: For to you it has been granted ¹⁵

D 2 The purpose of suffering: for Christ's sake,

D 3 The necessity of faith: not only to believe in Him,

D 4 The necessity of suffering: but also to suffer ¹⁶ for His sake,

C 4 The perspective on suffering -- a way to share with other persecuted Christians in their suffering: experiencing the same conflict ¹⁷ which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me. 1:30

A 2 THE PLEA TO DUPLICATE THE MIND-SET (OUTLOOK) OF CHRIST: Think As Christ Thinks 2:1-18

B 1 The Exhortation to the Philippians to Duplicate the Love, Thinking, Unity, and Humility Found in the Messiah 2:1-4

¹⁴ 1:28 - salvation: (4991 *soteria*)

¹⁵ 1:29 "granted," *echaristhe* 1Aor Ind Pass 3S (from 5483 *charizomai*, derived from 5485 *charis*), meaning "to do something pleasant or agreeable (to one), to do a favor, to gratify" (On-Line Bible). Usually translated "to forgive" (KJV). When God is the gracious giver, the giving or granting is something beneficial to the recipient. When men do the giving, a person might not be better off. In Acts 25:11 Festus, wishing to ingratiate himself with the Jews, offered to have Paul tried in Jerusalem. Knowing that he would be assassinated, Paul replied, "If then I am a wrongdoer, and have committed anything worthy of death, I do not refuse to die; but if none of those things is true of which these men accuse me, **no one can hand me over** to them. I appeal to Caesar." In Philippians 2:9, "Therefore also God highly exalted Him (Christ), and **bestowed** on Him the name which is above every name." It would seem that in the present passage, God has graciously given us the privilege, not only of believing on Jesus, but also of suffering for Him! Here both believing in Jesus and suffering for Him are seen as a privilege from God! The obvious LESSON is that we need to accept suffering for Jesus as part of God's plan for us; and we ought to count it a privilege to suffer for Jesus as well as believe on Him! In James 1:2-3 we are to "Consider it all joy ... when [we] encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of [our] faith produces endurance." The trial (3986 *peirasmos*) in this context is seen as "adversity, affliction, trouble: sent by God and serving to test or prove one's character, faith, holiness." (On-Line Bible)

¹⁶ 1:29 "to suffer" *paschein* (Pres. Act. Infin. from *pascho* 3958). To undergo wrong or injury or hardship. 1 Peter 2:21-23 21 "For you have been called for this purpose, since Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example for you to follow in His steps, 22 WHO COMMITTED NO SIN, NOR WAS ANY DECEIT FOUND IN HIS MOUTH; 23 and while being reviled, He did not revile in return; while suffering, He uttered no threats, but kept entrusting Himself to Him who judges righteously."

¹⁷ 1:30 - conflict: (*agona* - Accus. Sing. from 74 *agon*): "The assembly of the Greeks at their national games; hence the contest for a prize at their games; generally, any struggle or contest..." (On-Line Bible). We, of course get our English word agony from this word. It has the idea of giving a maximum effort to the point of great pain in order to triumph over an obstacle. In the present context, Paul expected the Philippian Christians to share in the honor and discipline and exertion of being able to suffer for Christ! Cf. Heb. 12: "Therefore, since we have so great a cloud of witnesses surrounding us, let us also lay aside every encumbrance, and the sin which so easily entangles us, and let us run with endurance the race (*agon*) that is set before us." (NASV)

- C 1 Be compassionately unified (completing Paul's joy) 2:1-2
 - D 1 The existence of unifying compassion in Christ 2:1
 - E 1 If therefore there is any encouragement in Christ,
 - E 2 if there is any consolation of love,
 - E 3 if there is any fellowship of the Spirit,
 - E 4 if any affection and compassion, ¹⁸
 - D 2 Paul's joyful insistence on their duplicating those qualities: make my joy complete by 2:2
 - E 1 being of the same mind, ¹⁹
 - E 2 maintaining the same love,
 - E 3 united in spirit,
 - E 4 intent on one purpose. 2:2
- C 2 Be not self-exalting: The **forbidden** selfish arrogance: Do nothing 2:3a
 - D 1 from selfishness
 - D 2 or empty conceit ²⁰
- C 3 Be others-honoring: The **commanded** humble deference 2:3b
 - D 1 but with humility of mind
 - D 2 let each of you regard one another as more important than himself; ²¹
- C 4 Be others-concerned-for 2:4
 - D 1 The forbidden selfishness: do not merely look out for your own personal interests,

¹⁸ 2:1 - affection and compassion: Encouragement, love, fellowship, affection, and compassion all inhere in Christ. 2:1

¹⁹ 2:2 - being of the same mind: Christians are exhorted to duplicate the same encouragement, love, spiritual unity, and purpose to be affectionate and compassionate. Furthermore, Christians are to encourage others by exhibiting love and unity.

²⁰ 2:3 - selfishness or empty conceit: Christians are to do nothing out of selfish ambition or empty conceit. Christians are never to be selfish or indulge in empty self-glory.

²¹ 2:3 - more important than himself: Christians are to view others as more important than themselves. 2:3

D 2 The commanded "others - orientation": but also for the interests of others. 2:4 ²²

B 2 The Example of the Messiah 2:5-11

C 1 His humility 2:5-8

D 1 The command to duplicate the attitude exemplified by Jesus the Messiah: Have this attitude in yourselves ²³ which was also in Christ Jesus, 2:5

D 2 The self-abasement of Him Who existed in the Form of God 2:6-8

E 1 His existence in the form of God: who, although He existed in the form of God, 2:6

E 2 He did not deem equality with God something to be seized by force: did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ²⁴ 2:6

E 3 He emptied Himself: but emptied Himself, 2:7

G 1 Taking the form of a slave: taking the form of a bond-servant,

G 2 Made in the likeness and appearance of men

H 1 and being made in the likeness of men.

H 2 And being found in appearance as a man,

E 4 He humbled Himself to the point of death on the cross 2:8

G 1 The statement of self-humbling: He humbled Himself

G 2 The explanation of self-humbling: by becoming obedient to the point of death, ²⁵ even death on a cross.

²² 2:4 - the interests of others: Christians are not merely to look out for their own interests, but also those of others. 2:4 Christians are not to be self-centered, but others-centered. 2:3-4

²³ 2:5 - Have this attitude in yourselves: Christians are to have the same attitude Christ exhibited (2:5-8). In addition, we Christians are to lead Christ-like lives.

²⁴ 2:6 - did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped: Christians cannot insist on maintaining positions of power and status; 2:6

²⁵ 2:8 - obedient to the point of death: Rather than seeking positions of power, Christians must, in humility, reach down to be a slave of others (2:7-8). We Christians must never act to protect our position, but must act to serve others.

- C 2 His reward 2:9-11
 - D 1 God's high exaltation of Him: Therefore also God highly exalted Him, 2:9a
 - D 2 God's giving Him a name above all names 2:9b-11
 - E 1 The giving of the name: and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, 2:9b
 - E 2 The purpose of the exalted name: that at the name of Jesus 2:10-11
 - G 1 The submission of every rational created being 2:10
 - H 1 every knee should bow,
 - J 1 of those who are in heaven,
 - J 2 and on earth,
 - J 3 and under the earth, 2:10
 - H 2 and that every tongue should confess²⁶ that Jesus Christ is Lord, 2:11a
 - G 2 The glory of the Father: to the glory of God the Father.²⁷ 2:11

B 3 The Application of the Exhortation 2:12-18

- C 1 With fear and trembling they are to work out their own salvation 2:12-13
 - D 1 The exhortation to live out in daily living their own salvation 2:12
 - E 1 His confidence in their obedience: So then, my beloved, just

²⁶ 2:11 - confess that Jesus Christ is Lord: All rational created beings will one day acknowledge Christ's Sovereignty over them, willingly or unwillingly. Mohammed will have to confess that Jesus is greater than he. Hitler will bow to Jesus and be held accountable for the millions of Jews he murdered. Joseph Stalin will bow before Jesus and confess to the sixty million Russians and Ukrainians he sent to their premature deaths by his policies. Carl Sagan will be forced to bow in humility and admit that Jesus created the universe. There was no Big Bang and no Evolution. Every Pope will be forced to admit that it was Jesus, not he himself, who had authority over Jesus' Church. And each one of us will have to give an accounting of himself to Jesus. It will be a supremely sobering moment in human history.

²⁷ 2:11 - to the glory of God the Father: A principle and several applications are in order here: PRINCIPLE: God rewarded Christ by exalting Him after His humility. APPLICATION: Because God rewarded Christ by exalting Him after His humility, we Christians can also expect a reward of exaltation after humble service. 2:9-11. APPLICATION: As we believers serve Christ in humility, He will honor us at the proper time. 2:9-11 APPLICATION: Meanwhile, our goal is to bring glory to God the Father by submitting to Christ and bringing others to that same submission. 2:9-11 APPLICATION: Meanwhile, our goal is to bring glory to God the Father by submitting to Christ and bringing others to that same submission. 2:9-11

- as you have always obeyed,
 - G 1 not as in my presence only,
 - G 2 but now much more in my absence,
 - E 2 His communication of their fearful obligation: work out your salvation with fear and trembling;
- D 2 The enablement for the fearful outliving: God's in-working 2:13
 - E 1 His motivation of believers: for it is God who is at work in you, both to will
 - E 2 His performance within believers of His good pleasure: and to work for His good pleasure.
- C 2 They are to live without murmurings and disputings 2:14-15
 - D 1 The command: Do all things without grumbling or disputing; 2:14
 - D 2 The reason – that they may be 2:15
 - E 1 Blameless: that you may prove yourselves to be blameless
 - E 2 Harmless: and innocent,
 - E 3 Shining like stars as God's faultless children among a perverted generation
 - G 1 Their relation to God: children of God
 - G 2 Their sterling character: above reproach
 - G 3 Their standing in a corrupt society: in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation,
 - G 4 Their brilliant contrast to society: among whom you appear as lights in the world,
- C 3 They are thus by their lives to uphold the Word of Life: holding fast the word of life, 2:16a
- C 4 The exemplary, joyful attitude of Paul facing the future 2:16b-18
 - D 1 His desire in the day of Christ for security from the Philippians' lives that his ministry was not wasted effort 2:16b
 - E 1 The day of accountability: so that in the day of Christ
 - E 2 His cause for boasting: I may have cause to glory
 - E 3 His successful effort: because I did not run in vain nor toil

in vain.

D 2 His reaction to the prospect of dying through having served them
2:17-18

E 1 His prospect of dying: But even if I am being poured out as
a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith,

E 2 Personal rejoicing: I rejoice and share my joy with you all.
2:17

E 3 Request for their rejoicing with him: And you too, I urge
you, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.
2:18

A 3 THE PLANS FOR PERSONNEL 2:19-30

B 1 Paul's Plan to Send Timothy 2:19-23

C 1 To gain an uplifting report of their welfare 2:19

D 1 Paul's plan: But I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you
shortly,

D 2 Paul's concern: so that I also may be encouraged when I learn of
your condition.

C 2 Because of Timothy's singular ability to care for others: For I have no one
else of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare.
2:20

C 3 Because of others' self-seeking character 2:21 For they all seek after their
own interests, not those of Christ Jesus.

C 4 Because of Timothy's known character of child-like service in the gospel
2:22

D 1 His proven worth: But you know of his proven worth

D 2 His service in evangelism: that he served with me in the
furtherance of the gospel

D 3 His enthusiastic commitment to the task: like a child serving his
father.

C 5 The timing: Timothy to be sent as soon as Paul knows how his trial turns
out 2:23 Therefore I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how
things go with me.;

B 2 Paul's Plan to Come Himself: and I trust in the Lord that I myself also shall be coming shortly; 2:24

B 3 Paul's Joy-Motivated Decision to Send Epaphroditus 2:25-30

- C 1 The decision to send Epaphroditus: But I thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, 2:25
- C 2 The qualifications of Epaphroditus: 2:25
 - D 1 my brother
 - D 2 and fellow worker
 - D 3 and fellow soldier,
 - D 4 who is also your messenger
 - D 5 and minister to my need;
- C 3 Epaphroditus' sickness 2:26-27
 - D 1 His desire to show himself healed to the concerned Philippians 2:26
 - E 1 His longing: because he was longing for you all
 - E 2 His distress: and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick.
 - D 2 His deathly sickness 2:27a for indeed he was sick to the point of death
 - D 3 God's merciful healing 2:27b
 - E 1 Toward Epaphroditus: but God had mercy on him,
 - E 2 Toward Paul: and not on him only but also on me, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.
- C 4 The request to receive him 2:28-30
 - D 1 With joy 2:28-29a
 - E 1 Therefore I have sent him all the more eagerly in order that when you see him again you may rejoice and I may be less concerned about you. 2:28
 - E 2 Therefore receive him in the Lord with all joy 2:29a
 - D 2 With honor 2:29b-30
 - E 1 The exhortation 2:29b and hold men like him in high regard;

E 2 His motive 2:30

G 1 Working for Christ: because he came close to death for the work of Christ,

G 2 Endangering his life: risking his life

G 3 Serving others: to complete what was deficient in your service to me.

A 4 THE PLEA TO SACRIFICE CONFIDENCE IN FLESHLY ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN ORDER TO PROFIT FROM CHRIST AND KNOW HIM: "Sacrifice to know Christ!" 3:1 - 4:1

B 1 The Preliminary Exhortation to Rejoice in Christ 3:1a

C 1 The exhortation: Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord.

C 2 The necessity of writing: To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.

B 2 Paul's Warning against Flesh-Glorifying Legalists (Circumcision-Requirees) 3:1b-3

C 1 The warning against "dogs" and "evil workmen" 3:2

D 1 Beware of the dogs,

D 2 beware of the evil workers,

D 3 beware of the false circumcision;

C 2 The reason: Trusters in Christ, not the flesh, are the true circumcision 3:3

D 1 The true identity: for we are the true circumcision,

D 2 The spiritual worship: who worship in the Spirit of God

D 3 The Messianic glory: and glory in Christ Jesus

D 4 The abstention from fleshly confidence: and put no confidence in the flesh

B 3 Paul's Example of Sacrificing Human Merit to Profit from Christ 3:4-14

C 1 The **superiority** of his claim to fame in fleshly credits 3:4-6

D 1 His superiority asserted 3:4 although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:

- D 2 His credentials listed 3:5-6
 - E 1 His legal circumcision: circumcised the eighth day, 3:5
 - E 2 His Israeli nationality: of the nation of Israel,
 - E 3 His Benjamite ancestry: of the tribe of Benjamin,
 - E 4 His Hebrew parentage and speech: a Hebrew of Hebrews;
 - E 5 His Pharisaic legalism: as to the Law, a Pharisee;
 - E 6 His religious zeal (persecuting the church): as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; 3:6
 - E 7 His blameless keeping of the Law: as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.
- C 2 His **policy** of sacrificing all fleshly credits for the excellence of knowing Messiah Jesus 3:7-8a
 - D 1 His past counting of his gain for loss: But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. 3:7
 - D 2 His ongoing policy of counting of all things as loss: More than that, I count all things to be loss 3:8a
 - D 3 His superlative trade-off! in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord,
 - D 4 His involuntary deprivation: for whom I have suffered the loss²⁸ of all things,
 - D 5 His ongoing policy of discounting personal glory: and count them but rubbish
- C 3 The **goal** of his sacrificing 3:8b-11
 - D 1 To gain (accrue profit from) Christ: in order that I may gain Christ. 3:8b
 - D 2 To be found in Christ: and may be found in Him, 3:9
 - E 1 Not having an "of the Law" righteousness: not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law,

²⁸ 3:8 - I have suffered the loss: lit. have experienced the loss. The verb (*edzemio'then*) is passive voice -- Paul did not here make a deliberate sacrifice; rather, the loss was exacted involuntarily upon him. Probably a reference to his capture and two-year-plus imprisonment by the Romans at the instigation of the Jews (Acts 21:27 ff.)

- E 2 But having an "of God" righteousness coming through faith in Christ 3:9
 - G 1 The object of the righteousness: but that which is through faith in Christ,
 - G 2 The source of the righteousness: the righteousness which comes from God
 - G 3 The securing of the righteousness: on the basis of faith,
- D 3 To know by experience 3:10
 - E 1 Christ: that I may know Him,
 - E 2 The power of Christ's resurrection: and the power of His resurrection
 - E 3 The fellowship (warm sharing in common) of His sufferings, thus being conformed to His death: and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;
- D 4 To attain to the "out-resurrection" from among the dead ones: in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. 3:11
- C 4 The **timing** of his achieving his goals in relation to fellowship with Christ 3:12a, 13a
 - D 1 He has not already received: (1) Not that I have already obtained it, 3:12a
 - D 2 He has not already been perfected: (2) or have already become perfect, 3:12a
 - D 3 He does not consider himself yet to have laid hold of Christ: (4) Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; 3:13a
- C 5 The **intensity** of his striving for his goal of complete fellowship with Christ 3:12b, 13b-14
 - D 1 His pursuit of the goal: (3) but I press on in order that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. 3:12b
 - D 2 His disregard for the past: (6) forgetting what lies behind 3:13b
 - D 3 His stretching for the future: (7) and reaching forward to what lies ahead,
 - D 4 His pursuit of the prize of the "upward-calling" of God in Messiah Jesus (The one thing he does!): (5) but one thing I do: (3:13b) (8) I

press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 3:14

B 4 Paul's Urging Other to Duplicate His Attitudes and Actions 3:15 - 4:1

C 1 The exhortation to mature Christians to have the same goal with respect to Christ as he does 3:15-16

D 1 Unencumbered with confidence in the flesh 3:15

E 1 Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude;

E 2 and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;

D 2 Walking according to knowledge already gained: however, let us keep living by that same standard to which we have attained. 3:16

C 2 The command to imitate Paul's attitudes and actions in all things 3:17-21

D 1 The command 3:17

E 1 Imitate Paul: Brethren, join in following my example,

E 2 Imitate Paul's imitators: and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

D 2 The reasons 3:18-21

E 1 The negative reason 3:18-19

G 1 The existence of many so-called Christians who are really enemies: For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ, 3:18

G 2 Their characteristics 3:19

H 1 Their destiny -- destruction: whose end is destruction,

H 2 Their god -- the belly: whose god is their appetite,

H 3 Their glory -- shame: and whose glory is in their shame,

H 4 Their thoughts -- earthly things: who set their minds on earthly things.

E 2 The positive reason: because of our heavenly destiny 3:20-21

- G 1 Our citizenship -- in the heavens: For our citizenship is in heaven, 3:20
- G 2 Our Savior, the Master, Jesus, Messiah -- whom we await from the heavens: from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;
- G 3 Our prospect -- the glorification of our bodies presently in humiliation 3:21
 - H 1 Transformation: who will transform the body of our humble state
 - H 2 Glorification: into conformity with the body of His glory,
 - H 3 Facilitation: by the exertion of the power that He has
 - H 4 Subjugation: even to subject all things to Himself.

C 3 The final command to the Philippians (Paul's source of joy and reward / achievement) to stand in the Lord 4:1

D 1 Paul's veneration

E 1 Admiration: Therefore, my beloved brethren

E 2 Anticipation: whom I long to see,

E 3 Motivation: my joy and crown,

D 2 Paul's exhortation: so stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.

A 5 THE PLEA FOR UNITY AND PEACE 4:2-9

B 1 The Exhortation to Unity 4:2-3

C 1 To Euodia and Syntyche: I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to live in harmony in the Lord 4:2

C 2 To Syzygus ("Yokefellow"?) to help them achieve unity 4:3

D 1 The request for assistance: Indeed, true comrade, I ask you also to help these women

D 2 Their eligibility for assistance

E 1 Their labor: who have shared my struggle in the cause of the gospel,

- E 2 Their favorable comparison with other of Paul's helpers
 - G 1 together with Clement also,
 - G 2 and the rest of my fellow workers,
- E 3 Their eternal security: whose names are in the book of life.

B 2 The Provision for Peace: Biblical Mental Hygiene 4:4-9

- C 1 The provision of the peace of God 4:4-7
 - D 1 The commands to rejoice continually in the Lord 4:4
 - E 1 Rejoice in the Lord always;
 - E 2 again I will say, rejoice!
 - D 2 The command to exhibit to gentleness and moderation (because of the nearness of the Lord) 4:5
 - E 1 The command: Let your forbearing spirit²⁹ be known
 - E 2 The scope: to all men.
 - E 3 The reason: The Lord is near.
 - D 3 The command to eliminate anxiety: Be anxious for nothing, 4:6
 - D 4 The practice of petitioning 4:6
 - E 1 The exhaustive scope of requests: But in everything
 - E 2 The accompaniments of requests
 - G 1 by prayer
 - G 2 and supplication
 - G 3 with thanksgiving
 - E 3 The command to continually communicate requests to God: let your requests be made known to God.
 - D 5 The provision of the peace of God 4:7
 - E 1 The source of peace: And the peace of God,
 - E 2 The unfathomable nature of the peace: which surpasses all

²⁹ 4:5 - forbearing spirit: in a moral sense, reasonable, fair, kind, gentle, good,

comprehension,

E 3 The protective role of peace: shall guard your hearts and your minds

E 4 The sphere of peace: in Christ Jesus.

C 2 The presence of the God of peace 4:8-9

D 1 Thought life -- Think on things of noble qualities: Finally, brethren,

E 1 The standard 4:8

G 1 whatever is true,

G 2 whatever is honorable,

G 3 whatever is right,

G 4 whatever is pure,

G 5 whatever is lovely,

G 6 whatever is of good repute,

G 7 if there is any excellence

G 8 and if anything worthy of praise,

E 2 The command: let your mind dwell on these things.

D 2 Practice life -- Practice the things learned from and seen in Paul: The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things; 4:9a

D 3 Result -- The God of peace will be with them: and the God of peace shall be with you. 4:9b

A 6 THANKS FOR THE PHILIPPIANS' ABUNDANT GIFT 4:10-20

B 1 Paul's Rejoicing at the Revival of Their Thought for Him 4:10

C 1 Their renewed concern: But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me;

C 2 Their new opportunity: Indeed, you were concerned before, but you lacked opportunity.

B 2 Paul's Disclaimer of Dire Need 4:11-13

C 1 His learned ability to be content in any circumstance 4:11

- D 1 His disclaimer of need: Not that I speak from want;
- D 2 His learned contentment: for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.
- C 2 His ability to adapt to humbling situations and prosperity 4:12
 - D 1 Coping with little: I know how to get along with humble means,³⁰
 - D 2 Coping with plenty: and I also know how to live in prosperity;
 - D 3 The secret of contentment: in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret
 - E 1 of being filled and going hungry,
 - E 2 both of having abundance and suffering need.
- C 3 His ability to accomplish all things in Christ: I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. 4:13

B 3 Paul's Commendation of Their Gift 4:14-18

- C 1 Because of their consequent fellowship with him in his affliction: Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction. 4:14
- C 2 Because of their past excellence in sharing with him 4:15-16
 - D 1 They were the only church to share with him 4:15
 - E 1 The time of their sharing: And you yourselves also know, Philippians,
 - G 1 that at the first preaching of the gospel,
 - G 2 after I departed from Macedonia,
 - E 2 The singularity of their sharing: no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone;
 - D 2 They shared with him in Thessalonica: for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for my needs. 4:16
- C 3 Paul's desire for spiritual progress credited to their account 4:17

³⁰ 4:12 - get along with humble means: Missionary friends of ours have learned how to cope with humble circumstances -- living in the jungle; and coping with plenty -- returning to America. If we American Christians were faced with debilitating need, could we learn to cope? Have we become so accustomed to a luxurious style of living, that if God wanted us to move into a situation where we could be of greater service to Him, we would be willing to do that? Or have we grown so attached to our conveniences, our toys, that we would choose to tell God, "Sorry, no can do!!?"

- D 1 What his motivation is not: Not that I seek the gift itself,
- D 2 What his motivation is: but I seek for the profit which increases to your account.

C 4 Paul's acknowledgment of his receipt of their beautiful gift from Epaphroditus 4:18

- D 1 His complete satisfaction with their gift
 - E 1 But I have received everything in full
 - E 2 and have an abundance;
 - E 3 I am amply supplied,
- D 2 His acknowledgment of their gift: having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent,
- D 3 His description of their gift
 - E 1 a fragrant aroma,
 - E 2 an acceptable sacrifice,
 - E 3 well-pleasing to God.

B 4 Paul's Promise of God's Supply of Their Needs 4:19

- C 1 The promise of God's supply: And my God shall supply all your needs
- C 2 The standard of God's supply: according to His riches in glory
- C 3 The sphere of God's supply: in Christ Jesus.

B 5 Paul's Glorification of God 4:20

- C 1 His description of God: Now to our God and Father
- C 2 His honoring God: be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

A 7 CLOSING GREETINGS 4:21-23

B 1 Greetings from Paul and Company 4:21

- C 1 Greetings from Paul: Greet every saint in Christ Jesus.
- C 2 Greetings from Paul's co-workers: The brethren who are with me greet you.

B 2 Greetings from the Romans 4:22

C 1 From the church: All the saints greet you,

C 2 From a special group: especially those of Caesar's household.

B 3 The Benediction of Grace: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. **4:23**

Expanded, Annotated Outline of Philippians

Prepared by James T. Bartsch

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WordExplain.com

P. O. Box 527

Cottonwood Falls, Kansas 66845

Email Contact: jbartsch@wordexplain.com

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Occurrences of Joy in Philippians

5479, *chara*, χαρά, joy

1. **Joy over seeing people come to know Jesus:** Philippians 1:3-5 3 "I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, 4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with **joy**, 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now.
2. **Joy in knowing the things of God, including the gospel** Philippians 1:25 And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and **joy** of faith;
3. **Joy in seeing other Christians Christ-like in their attitude and perspective:** Philippians 2:2 Fulfil ye my **joy**, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, [being] of one accord, of one mind.
4. **Joy in seeing God spare the life of another believer:** Philippians 2:29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all **gladness**; and hold such in reputation:
5. **There is joy from Christians with whom we've worked and helped grow in Christ and led to the Lord:** Philippians 4:1 . Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my **joy** and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, [my] dearly beloved.
5463 *chairō*, χαίρω, to rejoice
1. **The proclamation of the good news about Christ causes us to rejoice:** Philippians 1:18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein **do rejoice**, yea, and **will rejoice**.
2. **Sacrificing for other Christians causes us to rejoice:** Philippians 2:17 Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I **joy**, and rejoice with you all.
3. **Seeing another Christian give his life (in martyrdom) for Christ should cause us to rejoice:** Philippians 2:18 For the same cause also do ye **joy**, and rejoice with me.
4. **Seeing another believer whose life God has spared causes us to rejoice:** Philippians 2:28 I sent him therefore the more carefully, that, when ye see him again, ye may **rejoice**, and that I may be the less sorrowful.
5. **We rejoice in the Lord!**
 - a. Philippians 3:1 Finally, my brethren, **rejoice** in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed [is] not grievous, but for you [it is] safe.
 - b. Philippians 4:4 **Rejoice** in the Lord always: [and] again I say, **Rejoice**.
6. **We rejoice when God works through other Christians to help us!** Philippians 4:10 But I **rejoiced** in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

4796 *sugchairo*, συγχαίρω, to rejoice with

1. **Sacrificing (even through martyrdom) for other Christians causes us to rejoice along with those other Christians:** Philippians 2:17 Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.
2. **Seeing another Christian sacrifice his life in service (even through martyrdom) for Christ should cause us to rejoice along with him:** Philippians 2:18 For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.