

# 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

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

Prepared by James T. Bartsch  
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Email Contact: [jbartsch@wordexplain.com](mailto:jbartsch@wordexplain.com)

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- A1 THE PRELIMINARY MATTERS 1:1-30
- A2 THE PLEA TO DUPLICATE THE MIND-SET (OUTLOOK) OF CHRIST: Think as Christ thinks. 2:1-18
- A3 THE PLANS FOR PERSONNEL 2:19-30
- A4 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
- A5 THE PLEA FOR UNITY AND PEACE 4:2-9
- A6 THANKS FOR THE PHILIPPIANS' ABUNDANT GIFT 4:10-20
- A7 CLOSING GREETINGS 4:21-23

Major Divisions of PHILIPPIANS

Based on the ANALYSIS OF PHILIPPIANS

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## **A1 THE PRELIMINARY MATTERS 1:1-30**

B1 The Personal Interaction with the Philippians 1:1-11

B2 The Personal Report to the Philippians 1:12-26

B3 The Personal Challenge to Walk Worthy of the Gospel 1:27-30

## **A2 THE PLEA TO DUPLICATE THE MIND-SET (OUTLOOK) OF CHRIST: Think as Christ thinks. 2:1-18**

B1 The Exhortation to the Philippians to Duplicate the Love, Thinking, Unity, and Humility Found in the Messiah 2:1-4

B2 The Example of the Messiah 2:5-11

B3 The Application of the Exhortation 2:12-18

## **A3 THE PLANS FOR PERSONNEL 2:19-30**

B1 Paul's Plan to Send Timothy 2:19-23

B2 Paul's Plan to Come Himself 2:24

B3 Paul's Joy-Motivated Decision to Send Epaphroditus 2:25-30

**A4 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**

- B1 The Preliminary Exhortation to Rejoice in Christ 3:1a
- B2 Paul's Warning against Flesh-Glorifying Legalists (Circumcision-Requirers) 3:1b-3
- B3 Paul's Example of Sacrificing to Profit from Christ 3:4-14
- B4 Paul's Urging Other to Duplicate His Attitudes and Actions 3:15 - 4:1

**A5 THE PLEA FOR UNITY AND PEACE 4:2-9**

- B1 The Exhortation to Unity 4:2-3
- B2 The Provision for Peace 4:4-9

**A6 THANKS FOR THE PHILIPPIANS' ABUNDANT GIFT 4:10-20**

- B1 Paul's Rejoicing at the Revival of Their Thought for Him 4:10
- B2 Paul's Disclaimer of Dire Need 4:11-13
- B3 Paul's Commendation of Their Gift 4:14-18
- B4 Paul's Promise of God's Supply of Their Needs 4:19
- B5 Paul's Glorification of God 4:20

**A7 CLOSING GREETINGS 4:21-23**

- B1 General Exchange of Greetings 4:21
- B2 Special Greetings to Those of Caesar's Household 4:22
- B3 The Benediction of Grace 4:23

Condensed Outline of PHILIPPIANS  
Based on the ANALYSIS OF PHILIPPIANS  
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## **A1 THE PRELIMINARY MATTERS 1:1-30**

### **B1 The Personal Interaction with the Philippians 1:1-11**

- C1 Paul and Timothy's gracious greeting to the church and leaders in Philippi 1:1-2
- C2 Paul's positive attitude toward the Philippians 1:3-11

### **B2 The Personal Report to the Philippians 1:12-26**

- C1 Paul's *joyful* report that his circumstances have resulted in the progress of the gospel 1:12-18
- C2 Paul's conviction about his future release 1:19-26

### **B3 The Personal Challenge to Walk Worthy of the Gospel 1:27-30**

- C1 His desire to hear that they strive together in unity for the faith of the gospel 1:27
- C2 His reminder that opponents serve as a sign of their own destruction and the Philippians' salvation 1:28
- C3 His reminder that suffering is required for believers 1:29
- C4 His desire for them to experience his same tension (between going to Christ and staying to help others, cf. 1:23-24) 1:30

**A2 THE PLEA TO DUPLICATE THE MIND-SET (OUTLOOK) OF CHRIST: Think as Christ thinks. 2:1-18**

**B1 The Exhortation to the Philippians to Duplicate the Love, Thinking, Unity, and Humility Found in the Messiah 2:1-4**

C1 Be compassionately unified (completing Paul's *joy*) 2:1-2

C2 Be not self-exalting 2:3a

C3 Be others-honoring 2:3b

C4 Be others-concerned-for 2:4

**B2 The Example of the Messiah 2:5-11**

C1 His humility 2:5-8

C2 His reward 2:9-11

**B3 The Application of the Exhortation 2:12-18**

C1 With fear and trembling they are to work out their own salvation 2:12-13

C2 They are to live without murmurings and disputings 2:14-15

C3 They are thus by their lives to uphold the Word of Life 2:16a

C4 The exemplary, *joyful* attitude of Paul facing the future 2:16b-18

**A3 THE PLANS FOR PERSONNEL 2:19-30**

**B1 Paul's Plan to Send Timothy 2:19-23**

C1 To gain an uplifting report of their welfare 2:19

C2 Because of Timothy's singular ability to care for others 2:20

C3 Because of others' self-seeking character 2:21

C4 Because of Timothy's known character of child-like service in the gospel 2:22

C5 The timing: Timothy to be sent as soon as Paul knows how his trial turns out 2:23

**B2 Paul's Plan to Come Himself 2:24**

**B3 Paul's Joy-Motivated Decision to Send Epaphroditus 2:25-30**

C1 The decision 2:25

C2 Epaphroditus' sickness 2:26-27

C3 The request to receive him 2:28-30

**A4 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**

**B1 The Preliminary Exhortation to Rejoice in Christ 3:1a**

**B2 Paul's Warning against Flesh-Glorifying Legalists (Circumcision-Requirers) 3:1b-3**

C1 The warning against "dogs" and "evil workmen" 3:2

C2 The reason: Trusters in Christ, not the flesh, are the true circumcision 3:3

**B3 Paul's Example of Sacrificing to Profit from Christ 3:4-14**

C1 The **superiority** of his claim to fame in fleshly credits 3:4-6

C2 His **policy** of sacrificing all fleshly credits for the excellence of knowing Messiah Jesus 3:7-8a

C3 The **goal** of his sacrificing 3:8b-11

C4 The **timing** of his achieving his goals in relation to fellowship with Christ 3:12a, 13a

C5 The **intensity** of his striving for his goal of complete fellowship with Christ 3:12b, 13b-14

**B4 Paul's Urging Other to Duplicate His Attitudes and Actions 3:15 - 4:1**

C1 The exhortation to mature Christians to have the same goal with respect to Christ as he does 3:15-16

C2 The command to imitate Paul's attitudes and actions in all things 3:17-21

C3 The final command to the Philippians (Paul's source of joy and reward / achievement) to stand in the Lord 4:1

**A5 THE PLEA FOR UNITY AND PEACE 4:2-9**

**B1 The Exhortation to Unity 4:2-3**

C1 To Euodia and Syntyche 4:2

C2 To Syzygus ("Yokefellow"?) to help them achieve unity 4:3

**B2 The Provision for Peace 4:4-9**

C1 The provision of the peace of God 4:4-7

C2 The presence of the God of peace 4:8-9

**A6 THANKS FOR THE PHILIPPIANS' ABUNDANT GIFT 4:10-20**

**B1 Paul's Rejoicing at the Revival of Their Thought for Him 4:10**

**B2 Paul's Disclaimer of Dire Need 4:11-13**

C1 His learned ability to be content in any circumstance 4:11

C2 His ability to adapt to humbling situations and prosperity 4:12

C3 His ability to accomplish all things in Christ 4:13

**B3 Paul's Commendation of Their Gift 4:14-18**

C1 Because of their consequent fellowship with him in affliction 4:14

C2 Because of their past excellence in sharing with him 4:15-16

C3 Paul's desire for spiritual progress credited to their account 4:17

C4 Paul's acknowledgment of his receipt of their beautiful gift from Epaphroditus 4:18

**B4 Paul's Promise of God's Supply of Their Needs 4:19**

**B5 Paul's Glorification of God 4:20**

**A7 CLOSING GREETINGS 4:21-23**

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