
Some are preaching Christ to further their own selfish ambition and not to lift up Christ (Philippians 1:15,16). All these are doing in raising suspicion about him with his enemies (Philippians 1:16). But others are preaching the gospel motivated by love which is the same aim of that of Paul, knowing that Paul would defend the gospel at all cost to himself (Philippians 1:17).

2. Concerning the situation in the above paragraph, What does Paul say he continues to be happy about? (Philippians 1:18) _____

Paul believes that this gospel being preached will have one of two outcomes for him: (1) it will be his **salvation** (or deliverance) from prison and death by their prayers and **the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ** (Philippians 1:19).

As their prayers go up, the supply of the Spirit comes down. Their prayers and God's grace are like "two buckets in a well; while one ascends the other descends." (quote: BBC, Volume 9, p. 305)

FIRST STUDY

PAUL'S MOST PERSONAL WRITING

GREETINGS (Philippians 1:1)

Paul's letter to the Philippians is the most personal of all his writings which relays to us his personal feelings of attachment to them.

The main subject is joy. In the middle of all his stress and trials he radiates joy.

1. (a) From whom, other than Paul, is this Epistle sent out? (Philippians 1:1) _____
(b) This letter is being sent out to what persons? (Philippians 1:1) _____

(c) What words does Paul use to salute them in Philippians 1:2? _____

THANKSGIVING AND PRAYER (Philippians 1:3-10)

There is great tenderness expressed by Paul in these verses. As you read them you can feel his heart towards them. His love for them oozes out through all these verses.

1. In what does Paul stress his confidence concerning them? (Philippians 1:6) _____

He that has begun a good work in them will perform it, or continue to do it, until the day of Jesus Christ. The Scriptures begin with God in Genesis 1, and end with God in the Book of Revelation. God always finishes what He starts.

2. What are some of the praises Paul offers for the Philippians in Philippians 1:7,8, that stress his deep affection? _____

3. What does Paul, in his prayer of petition, pray for the Philippian Church in Philippians 1:9-11? _____

Fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God . Philippians 1:11. The oldest manuscripts read "fruit"

(singular, *karpon*) of righteousness (cf. Rom. 6:22; Gal. 5:22; Eph. 5:9; Heb. 12:11; Jas. 3:18). The righteousness here pictured is that which is by **Jesus Christ**, in contrast to the righteousness which is by the law (3:9). Without this **righteousness** which is in Christ, no fruit is possible (cf. John 15:4). **Glory** (*doxan*) is the manifestation of God's power and grace; **praise** (*epainon*) is the recognition by men of these divine attributes. As the tree filled with fruit honors the gardener, so a person with the fruit of righteousness brings **glory and praise** to God. ¹

Verses 9-11 speak of "The Fruit of Righteousness," which includes: (1) A love that is abounding and informed, 9; (2) A capacity for making proper moral distinctions, 10a; (3) A motivation that seeks the glory of God, 10b. ¹

TO ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST (Philippians 1:12-26)

Paul, here wants to relieve the anxiety of the Philippian Church regarding most likely a question he received of when he could possibly visit them. Not only does Paul stress how it is with him; but he he wants them to know how it is with the gospel.

1. How does Paul explain to them the way things which have happened to him effected the gospel? (Philippians 1:12-14) _____

1. Beacon Bible Commentary, Volume 9, pp. 297,298.