



Philippians The Joy of Knowing Christ

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Introduction to Philippians

Philippians 1: 1-2

July 31, 2016

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Theme: Paul’s letter to the church in Philippi was a letter expressing the warmth of his love and the depth of their fellowship in the Gospel. The apostle Paul was in the midst of very trying circumstances, but those circumstances did not, and could not, diminish his abounding joy – based on both his relationship with Jesus and with the Church at Philippi. He is not writing to the church to tell them “How” to have joy, but “Why” they should have joy. Paul did not seek happiness; Paul sought the Lord and though serving Jesus, happiness found him. It is a model worth emulating in our lives.

Outline

1. The City and Its People

a. Philip II of Macedon

b. Roman Rule

(Acts 16:20–23, 35–39)

2. The Founding of the Church

(Acts 16:6-34)

- a. Lydia
- b. Slave Girl
- c. Jailer

3. The Origin and Date of Paul's Letter

4. The Purpose of Paul's Letter

5. The Structure of Paul's Letter

- a. Situation in Rome (1:12-1:26)
- b. Unity in the Church (1:27 – 2:18)
- c. Warnings (3:2 – 3:21)
- d. Joy in Giving (4:1 – 4:20)

6. Greeting

(Philippians 1: 1-2)

Takeaway: Joy is not an emotion determined by our circumstances, but a state of being determined by our relationship with Jesus.

Next Cove: August 7, 2016

Thanksgiving and Prayer

Philippians 1: 3-11