

Philippians

Chapter 2:12-18

- I. **Philippians 2:12**¹²Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.
- a. Beloved
- i. **Beloved- Greek word *agapatos*-** Strongs Con. from G25; beloved:—(dearly, well) beloved, dear.
 - ii. **Philippians 4:1** ¹Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, *my* dearly beloved.
 - iii. **II Corinthians 7:1** ¹Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
 - iv. **I Corinthians 4:14** ¹⁴I write not these things to shame you, but as my beloved sons I warn *you*.
 - v. **Romans 1:7** ⁷To all that be in Rome, beloved of God, called *to be* saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father, and the Lord Jesus Christ.
 - 1. **Also, individually...Tychicus, Timothy, Epaphroditus, Stachys, Persis, Philemon, Apphia.**
- b. Obedying
- i. There wouldn't have been a complete canon. Paul established the church at Philippi. Luke continued on for five years. The key is that they were obeying even when Paul and Luke weren't present. This news could have come from Epaphroditus. They kept going with what they were taught. That is a great example.
 - ii. A big issue today is the desire for therapy. People are wanting someone to listen to their problems ongoing.

Biblical Counseling on the other hand works toward getting the client to get to the point of walking on their own and not be a forever crutch.

- iii. It's telling that the Philippians were obeying on their own.

c. Work "out" not "for" your salvation

- i. **Ephesians 2:8-9** ⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: ⁹**Not of works**, lest any man should boast.
- ii. **Titus 3:5** ⁵**Not by works of righteousness** which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;
- iii. **II Timothy 1:9** ²Who hath saved us, and called *us* with an holy calling, **not according to our works**, but according to his own purpose and grace, which was given us in Christ Jesus before the world began,
- iv. **Romans 4:4-5** ⁴Now to him that worketh is the reward not reckoned of grace, but of debt. ⁵But to him that **worketh not**, but believeth on him that justifieth the ungodly, his **faith is counted for righteousness**.
- v. **Galatians 2:16** ¹⁶Knowing that a man is **not justified by the works of the law**, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified by the faith of Christ, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.
- vi. **Colossians 2:10** ¹⁰And ye are complete in him, which is the head of all principality and power:

d. But what about James?

- i. **James 1:1** ¹James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, **to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad**, greeting.
- ii. **James 2:24** ²⁴Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.

iii. **Acts 21:18**¹⁸And the *day* following Paul went in with us unto James; and all the elders were present. ¹⁹And when he had saluted them, he declared particularly what things God had wrought among the Gentiles by his ministry. ²⁰And when they heard *it*, they glorified the Lord, and said unto him, Thou seest, brother, how many thousands of Jews there are which believe; and they are all zealous of the law: ²¹And they are informed of thee, that thou teachest all the Jews which are among the Gentiles to forsake Moses, saying that they ought not to circumcise *their* children, neither to walk after the customs.

1. James was a pillar in the church and based on both councils in Acts 15 and 21 was a minister to the circumcision and preaching the Kingdom message.

iv. Fear and trembling relates to the day of Christ and subsequent judgment seat of Christ for the believer

1. II Corinthians 5:9-11 ⁹Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. ¹⁰For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad. ¹¹Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

II. **Philippians 2:13** ¹³For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

a. God's working...not ours

i. **Galatians 1:10** ¹⁰For do I now persuade men, or God? or do I seek to please men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

- ii. **Romans 6:13**¹³Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.
- iii. **Romans 6:16** ¹⁶Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves servants to obey, his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?
- iv. **Romans 6:19** ¹⁹I speak after the manner of men because of the infirmity of your flesh: for as ye have yielded your members servants to uncleanness and to iniquity unto iniquity; even so now yield your members servants to righteousness unto holiness.

b. God's purpose...not ours

- i. **Ephesians 1:9-10** ⁹Having made known unto us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure which he hath purposed in himself: ¹⁰That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; *even* in him:
- ii. **Colossians 1:9-10** ⁹For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of his will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; ¹⁰That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; ¹¹Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness;

III. **Philippians 2:14**¹⁴Do all things without murmurings and disputings:

a. murmurings

- i. **murmurings** - Greek word *gongysmos*- Strongs Con. from G111 grumbling:—grudging, murmuring.

- ii. It's the idea of a secret debate or a secret displeasure not openly avowed
- iii. **Numbers 14:26-28** ²⁶And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying, ²⁷How long *shall I bear with* this evil congregation, which murmur against me? I have heard the murmurings of the children of Israel, which they murmur against me. ²⁸Say unto them, *As truly as I live*, saith the LORD, as ye have spoken in mine ears, so will I do to you:
- iv. **I Corinthians 10:10** ¹⁰Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.
- v. **I Timothy 2:8** ⁸I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.
- vi. **I Peter 4:9** ⁹Use hospitality one to another without **grudging**.

1. Translated "grudging" in I Peter 4:9

b. Murmuring derailed the early Kingdom Church

- i. **Acts 6:1** ¹And in those days, when the number of the disciples was multiplied, there arose a murmuring of the Grecians against the Hebrews, because their widows were neglected in the daily ministration.

c. Disputing

- i. **disputings** - Greek word *dialogismos*- from G1260; discussion, i.e. (internal) consideration (by implication, purpose), or (external) debate:—dispute, doubtful(-ing), imagination, reasoning, thought.
- ii. **Translated thoughts, reasoning, imagination, doubtful, disputating, doubting**
- iii. **Mark 7:21** ²¹For from within, out of the heart of men, proceed evil thoughts, adulteries, fornications, murders,
- iv. **Luke 5:22** ²²But when Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answering said unto them, What reason ye in your hearts?

- v. **Luke 9:46** ⁴⁶Then there arose a reasoning among them, which of them should be greatest.
- vi. **Romans 1:21** ²¹Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.
- vii. **Romans 14:1** ¹Him that is weak in the faith receive ye, *but* not to doubtful disputations.
- viii. **I Timothy 2:8** ⁸I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting.

IV. **Philippians 2:15** ¹⁵That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

a. **See the connection of why there can't be murmuring and disputing.**

- i. **II Corinthians 7:1** ¹Having therefore these promises, dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God.
- ii. **Ephesians 5:27** ²⁷That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

b. Crooked and perverse nation

- i. **Matthew 17:17** ¹⁷Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.
- ii. **Luke 9:41** ⁴¹And Jesus answering said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you, and suffer you? Bring thy son hither.
- iii. **Acts 2:40** ⁴⁰And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation.

1. There will always be two groups. Believers and unbelievers. As a result there will always be a perverse nation that is crooked.

c. Among

i. Light was always meant to dispel darkness. This was part of the sermon on the mount as Israel was being prepared for her kingdom and be a blessing to all nations.

1. **Matthew 5:13-16** ¹³Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men. ¹⁴Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid. ¹⁵Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house. ¹⁶Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

2. **I Corinthians 5:9-11** ⁹I wrote unto you in an epistle not to company with fornicators: ¹⁰Yet not altogether with the fornicators of this world, or with the covetous, or extortioners, or with idolaters; **for then must ye needs go out of the world.** ¹¹But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

a. **We cannot hide, we must engage culture but be not conformed to it**

b. **Romans 12:2** ²And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove

what *is* that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

- c. **II Corinthians 6:17** ¹⁷Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean *thing*; and I will receive you,

- d. Shine as lights

- i. **Ephesians 5:8** ⁸For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:
 - ii. **I Thessalonians 5:5** ⁵Ye are all the children of light, and the children of the day: we are not of the night, nor of darkness.
 - iii. **II Corinthians 4:3-6** ³But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: ⁴In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. ⁵For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake. ⁶For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

1. **We are ambassadors given the ministry of reconciliation to see all men saved and come to the knowledge of the truth. We must share the light of the glorious gospel of Christ**

- V. **Philippians 2:16** ¹⁶Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

- a. Word of life

- i. **II Timothy 1:12-13** ¹²For the which cause I also suffer these things: nevertheless I am not ashamed: for I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able to keep that which I have committed unto him against that day. ¹³Hold fast the form of sound words, which

thou hast heard of me, in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

- ii. **Titus 1:1-3** ¹Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; ²In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began; ³But hath in due times manifested his word through preaching, which is committed unto me according to the commandment of God our Saviour;

- 1. **Today we are fortunate that we can rightly divide the word of truth because we have the full canon of scripture.**

- 2. **II Timothy 2:15** ¹⁵Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

- iii. Day of Christ

- 1. Not day of the Lord.

- 2. **References the rapture and what that entails. See notes on week 3 Philippians 1:5-11**

- VI. **Philippians 2:17** ¹⁷Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

- a. Offered

- i. **II Timothy 4:6** ⁶For I am now ready to be offered, and the time of my departure is at hand.

- VII. **Philippians 2:18** ¹⁸For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.

- i. Rejoicing is the theme of this epistle. This is especially noteworthy considering the circumstances of Paul and believers during that time. Mutual joy from both parties denotes the nature of the relationship.

- ii. Rejoice in the Lord always (Philippians 4:4)