

# Philippians

## Chapter 1:1-4

- I. **Philippians 1:1** <sup>1</sup>Paul and Timothy, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

a. Timeframe

- i. Luke established the church roughly 50-51 AD, Paul picked him back up roughly 5 years later.
- ii. **Acts 20:5-6**<sup>5</sup>These going before tarried for us at Troas. <sup>6</sup>And we sailed away from Philippi after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days.
- iii. Based on Josephus' *Antiquities of the Jews*, which dates the replacement of Felix by Festus as governor of Judea to approximately 58–59 CE, Paul's Roman imprisonment, as described in Acts 28:30–31, can be dated to roughly 60–62 CE.

b. Timothy

- i. **I Timothy 1:2** <sup>2</sup>Unto Timothy, *my* own son in the faith: Grace, mercy, *and* peace, from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord.
- ii. **Acts 16:1-2**<sup>1</sup>Then came he to Derbe and Lystra: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named Timotheus, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father *was* a Greek: <sup>2</sup>Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at Lystra and Iconium.

c. Servants

- i. Three times mentioned during letter intros. Only reference without following up with his apostleship.
- ii. **Romans 1:1** <sup>1</sup>Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated unto the gospel of God,

- iii. **Titus 1:1** <sup>1</sup>Paul, 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;
- iv. **Romans 11:13** <sup>13</sup>For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office:
- v. Greek Doulos.
- vi. **Exodus 21:5-6** <sup>5</sup>And if the servant shall plainly say, I love my master, my wife, and my children; I will not go out free: <sup>6</sup>Then his master shall bring him unto the judges; he shall also bring him to the door, or unto the door post; and his master shall bore his ear through with an aul; and he shall serve him for ever.

d. "Of Christ"

- i. **I Corinthians 6:19-20** <sup>19</sup>What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.
- ii. **I Corinthians 7:21-23** <sup>21</sup>Art thou called *being* a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use *it* rather. <sup>22</sup>For he that is called in the Lord, *being* a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, *being* free, is Christ's servant. <sup>23</sup>Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.
- iii. **Romans 6:17-20** <sup>17</sup>But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine which was delivered you. <sup>18</sup>Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I 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. <sup>20</sup>For when ye

were the servants of sin, ye were free from righteousness.

e. Saints

- i. The process for becoming a saint in Catholicism involves the local bishop investigating a deceased person's life to declare them a "Servant of God," the Vatican recognizing heroic virtues for "Venerable" status - verifying a miracle for beatification as "Blessed," and confirming a second miracle for canonization as a saint.
- ii. Compared to the Bible
  1. **Acts 9:13** <sup>13</sup>Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem:
  2. **Acts 9:32** <sup>32</sup>And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all *quarters*, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda.
  3. **Ephesians 1:1** <sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God, to the saints which are at Ephesus, and to the faithful in Christ Jesus:
  4. **Colossians 1:2** <sup>2</sup>To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ which are at Colosse: Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
  5. **I Corinthians 1:2** <sup>2</sup>Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:
  6. **Romans 4:22-24**<sup>22</sup>And therefore it was imputed to him for righteousness. <sup>23</sup>Now it was not written for his sake alone, that it was imputed to him; <sup>24</sup>But for us also, to whom it shall be imputed, if we believe on him that raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead;

f. Bishops

- i. **Titus 1:5-7** <sup>5</sup>For this cause left I thee in Crete, that thou shouldest set in order the things that are wanting, and ordain elders in every city, as I had appointed thee: <sup>6</sup>If any be blameless, the husband of one wife, having faithful children not accused of riot or unruly. <sup>7</sup>For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; <sup>8</sup>But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; <sup>9</sup>Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.
- ii. **I Timothy 3:1-7** <sup>1</sup>This *is* a true saying, If a man desire the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work. <sup>2</sup>A bishop then must be blameless, the husband of one wife, vigilant, sober, of good behaviour, given to hospitality, apt to teach; <sup>3</sup>Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous; <sup>4</sup>One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity; <sup>5</sup>(For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) <sup>6</sup>Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil. <sup>7</sup>Moreover he must have a good report of them which are without; lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.
- iii. **Acts 20:28** <sup>28</sup>Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.
- iv. **I Peter 2:25** <sup>25</sup>For ye were as sheep going astray; but are now returned unto the Shepherd and Bishop of your souls.

1. Shepherd, Bishop, Elder

g. Deacon

- i. **I Timothy 3:8-13** <sup>8</sup>Likewise *must* the deacons *be* grave, not doubletongued, not given to much wine, not greedy of filthy lucre; <sup>9</sup>Holding the mystery of the faith in a pure conscience. <sup>10</sup>And let these also first be proved; then let them use the office of a deacon, being *found* blameless. <sup>11</sup>Even so *must* *their* wives *be* grave, not slanderers, sober, faithful in all things. <sup>12</sup>Let the deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. <sup>13</sup>For they that have used the office of a deacon well purchase to themselves a good degree, and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.
- ii. **This is the only letter that Paul starts this way and mentions the leadership in the greeting. They've come a long way since not having a synagogue. This speaks to Luke's leadership.**

II. **Philippians 1:2** <sup>2</sup>Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.

- a. **Paul uses this in every letter: Romans 1:7, I Corinthians 1:3, II Corinthians 1:2, Galatians 1:3, Ephesians 1:2, Philippians 1:2, Colossians 1:2, I Thessalonians 1:1, II Thessalonians 1:2, Philemon 1:3**
- b. **Pastoral Epistles add the word "mercy": I Timothy 1:2, II Timothy 1:2, Titus 1:4**
- c. Grace
  - i. **Ephesians 2:8-9** <sup>8</sup>For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: <sup>9</sup>Not of works, lest any man should boast.
- d. Peace
  - i. **Romans 5:1** <sup>1</sup>Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:
- e. Mercy
  - i. **Titus 3:5** <sup>5</sup>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;

ii. **Ephesians 2:4** <sup>4</sup>But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

1. **In simplest form, Grace is receiving what you don't deserve and Mercy is not getting what you deserve.**

2. **Every instance mentions God first and always references Him as father.**

3. **James 1:17** <sup>17</sup>Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

4. **Keep in mind what John says about the Holy Spirit.**

5. **John 16:13-14** <sup>13</sup>Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. <sup>14</sup>He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.

III. **Philippians 1:3-4** <sup>3</sup>I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,

a. Thankful

i. **Ephesians 5:20** <sup>20</sup>Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

ii. **I Thessalonians 5:16-17** <sup>17</sup>Pray without ceasing. <sup>18</sup>In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

b. Prayer

i. **Philippians 4:6** <sup>6</sup>Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

- ii. **In fact every church, not individual, Paul is thankful for something or thankful to God in the letters. Most of the time it's right at the beginning...just not Galatians.**
- iii. **Philippians 4:6** <sup>6</sup>Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
- c. Joy
  - i. Philippians is commonly known as the epistle of joy.
  - ii. Rejoicing is a command
    - 1. **Philippians 4:4** <sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord  
alway: *and* again I say, Rejoice.
    - 2. **I Thessalonians 5:16** <sup>16</sup>Rejoice evermore.
  - iii. Joy, Rejoice, Rejoiced, Gladness all add up to 15 references in just 4 chapters.
  - iv. 1:4, 1:18, 1:25, 2:2, 2:17, 2:18, 2:28, 2:29, 3:1, 4:1, 4:4, 4:10