

Philippians

Chapter 4:1-9

- I. **Philippians 4:1** ¹Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, *my* dearly beloved.
- a. “Therefore”
 - i. **Chapter 3 verses 17-21 dealt with being a follower of the right example, avoiding enemies of the cross, reminding them that their citizenship is in Heaven and the imminent return of Christ.**
 - b. Terms of endearment
 - i. **Brethren**
 - 1. **Philippians 1:12, 3:1, 3:13, 3:17, 4:1, 4:8**
 - ii. **Dearly beloved (twice)**
 - 1. **Paul uses “Dear” to the Ephesians regarding following God.**
 - a. **Ephesians 5:1** ¹Be ye therefore followers of God, as dear children;
 - iii. **Longed for**
 - iv. **My joy and crown**
 - 1. **Paul previously referred to the Thessalonians as a crown as well.**
 - a. **I Thessalonians 2:19** ¹⁹For what *is* our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? *Are* not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?
 - c. Stand fast in the Lord
 - i. **This reminds me of when Paul was writing to the Ephesians regarding putting on the armor of God.**
 - 1. **Ephesians 6: 10-14**¹⁰Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his

might. ¹¹Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to **stand** against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high *places*.

¹³Wherefore take unto you the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to **withstand** in the evil day, and having done all, to **stand**. ¹⁴**Stand** therefore, having your loins girt about with truth, and having on the breastplate of righteousness;

ii. **Standing involves preparation**

1. **Proverbs 22:3** ³A prudent *man* foreseeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.

a. **Also Proverbs 27:12**

2. **Ephesians 5:15-17** ¹⁵See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, ¹⁶Redeeming the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord *is*.

iii. **Stand lest you fall**

1. **I Corinthians 10:12** ¹²Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

2. **Romans 11:11-12** ¹¹I say then, Have they stumbled that they should fall? God forbid: but *rather* through their fall salvation *is come* unto the Gentiles, for to provoke them to jealousy. ¹²Now if the fall of them *be* the riches of the world, and the diminishing of them the riches of the Gentiles; how much more their fulness?

a. **Israel's fall**

iv. **Standing doctrinally**

1. **Ephesians 4:14** ¹⁴That we *henceforth* be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with

every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, *and* cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive;

- II. **Philippians 4:2-3** ²I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord. ³And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and *with* other my fellowlabourers, whose names *are* in the book of life.

a. Same mind

i. **This has been mentioned multiple times in this epistle.**

1. **Philippians 1:27** ²⁷Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;
2. **Philippians 2:2** ²Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.
3. **Philippians 3:15-16** ¹⁵Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you. ¹⁶Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

ii. **Not just in Philippi**

1. **II Corinthians 13:11** ¹¹Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of one mind, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.
2. **Colossians 3:15** ¹⁵And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.

iii. **Unity in the body of Christ is critical**

1. I Corinthians 12:22-26²²Nay, much more those members of the body, which seem to be more feeble, are necessary: ²³And those *members* of the body, which we think to be less honourable, upon these we bestow more abundant honour; and our uncomely *parts* have more abundant comeliness. ²⁴For our comely *parts* have no need: but God hath tempered the body together, having given more abundant honour to that *part* which lacked: ²⁵That there should be no schism in the body; but *that* the members should have the same care one for another. ²⁶And whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honoured, all the members rejoice with it.

b. Euodias and Syntyche

- i. **Perhaps these women were part of the group of women in Acts 16:13. Paul calls them fellow laborers.**
- ii. **Paul asks for help from “true yokefellow”. Could be Epaproditus or part of the leadership mentioned in Philippians 1:1.**
- iii. **Not the only time that Paul steps in**

1. Philemon and Onesimus

a. **Philemon 1:10-12** ¹⁰I beseech thee for my son Onesimus, whom I have begotten in my bonds: ¹¹Which in time past was to thee unprofitable, but now profitable to thee and to me: ¹²Whom I have sent again: thou therefore receive him, that is, mine own bowels:

2. Man caught in sin (I Corinthians 5)

a. **II Corinthians 2:6-8** ⁶Sufficient to such a man *is* this punishment, which *was* inflicted of many. ⁷So that contrariwise

ye *ought* rather to forgive *him*, and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one should be swallowed up with overmuch sorrow. ⁸Wherefore I beseech you that ye would confirm *your* love toward him.

c. Book of life

- i. See Revelation 13:8, 17:8, 20:12, 20:15, 21:27. Book of life seems to pertain to Israel. Paul obviously worked with those of the circumcision.

1. **Colossians 4:11**¹¹And Jesus, which is called Justus, who are of the **circumcision**. These only *are my* fellowworkers unto the kingdom of God, which have been a comfort unto me.

- ii. The Body of Christ is named in Christ

1. **Ephesians 3:15**¹⁵Of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named,

III. **Philippians 4:4-9**⁴Rejoice in the Lord alway: *and* again I say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord *is* at hand. ⁶Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. ⁸Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things. ⁹Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

a. Rejoice

- i. Rejoicing is a command

1. **I Thessalonians 5:16** ¹⁶Rejoice evermore.

- ii. Joy, Rejoice, Rejoiced, Gladness all add up to 15 references in just 4 chapters.

- i. 1:4, 1:18, 1:25, 2:2, 2:17, 2:18, 2:28, 2:29, 3:1, 4:1, 4:4, 4:10

b. Moderation

- i. **Moderation- Greek word *epieikēs*-** Strongs Con. from G1901 and G1503; appropriate, i.e. (by implication) mild:—gentle, moderation, patient.
 - 1. **Translated as “gentle” (3 times), “patient” and “moderation”.**
 - 2. It’s interesting that it is used in two of the Pastoral epistles as a requirement for a bishop and instructions on Godly living. This characteristic being known to all men is critical to our testimony.
 - a. **I Timothy 3:3** ³Not given to wine, no striker, not greedy of filthy lucre; but patient, not a brawler, not covetous;
 - i. **Bishop**
 - b. **Titus 3:2** ²To speak evil of no man, to be no brawlers, *but* gentle, shewing all meekness unto all men.

c. Lord is at hand

- i. **Our lives are but a vapor. Either in death or rapture, the Lord is at hand.**
 - 1. **Romans 13:11** ¹¹And that, knowing the time, that now *it is* high time to awake out of sleep: for now *is* our salvation nearer than when we believed.
 - 2. **I Corinthians 15:23, 52** ²³But every man in his own order: Christ the firstfruits; afterward they that are Christ's at his coming.
 - 3. **I Corinthians 15:52** ⁵²In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.
 - 4. See **I Thessalonians 1:10, 2:19, 3:3, 4:13-18**

d. Prayer

i. **These verses on prayer should be compared to verses in the gospels to the body of Christ.**

ii. **Kingdom**

1. **Matthew 21:22** ²²And all things, whatsoever ye shall ask in prayer, believing, ye shall receive.
2. **Matthew 7:7-8** ⁷Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: ⁸For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.
3. **Mark 11:24** ²⁴Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive *them*, and ye shall have *them*.
4. **John 14:13-14** ¹³And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. ¹⁴If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.

5. The Lord's Prayer in Matthew 6:9-13

iii. **Body of Christ**

1. **We see in these verses.** ⁶Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. ⁷And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

a. Don't be anxious or worried

- i. **Prayer combats anxiety. We are not to worry in any dispensation. See Luke 10:41, I Peter 5:7, Matthew 6:25-34.**

b. Not a model

- i. **Romans 8:26**²⁶Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we

ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

c. Everything with thanksgiving

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

d. Peace of God will keep your hearts and minds

- i. **Paul's thorn in II Corinthians 12:7-9**

e. Thought test

- i. **This is what the mind of Christ should be thinking about. We have to renew our minds with the right things.**

ii. **This is the list**

1. whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.

2. **Think**

- a. **Think-** Greek word *logizomai*- Strongs Con. middle voice from G3056; to take an inventory, i.e. estimate (literally or figuratively):—conclude, (ac-)count (of), $\boxplus$ despise, esteem, impute, lay, number, reason, reckon, suppose, think (on).
- b. **Translated as “think” (9 times), “impute” (8 times), “reckon” (6 times), “count” (5 times), “account” (4 times), “suppose” (2 times) and “reason”.**
- c. **The other time in Philippians**

- i. **Philippians 3:13** ¹³Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,
- ii. **This is an important verse regarding thinking about our sin nature with the word “reckon”.**
- iii. **Romans 6:11** ¹¹Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

f. Paul's Example

i. **Learned, Received, Heard and Seen**

1. **10 years earlier and correspondence**

2. **Similar process of salvation in Ephesians 1:13**

- a. **Ephesians 1:13** ¹³In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

ii. **Now do it**

1. **Paul's dispensation of grace followed for doctrine today (Romans 16:25, Romans 11:13, Ephesians 3:8-9)**

- a. **See I Corinthians 4:16, 11:1. I Timothy 1:15-16, Ephesians 5:1-2.**

2. **Doctrine produces the behavior**

- a. **II Timothy 2:2** And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also.

- b. **I Thessalonians 4:1** ¹Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the

Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us
how ye ought to walk and to please
God, *so* ye would abound more and more.

c. II Timothy 1:13 ¹³Hold fast the form of
sound words, which thou hast heard of me,
in faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

g. God of Peace

i. **Compared to peace of God in verse 7**

1. Romans 16:20 ²⁰And the God of peace shall
bruise Satan under your feet shortly. The grace of
our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you. Amen.

ii. **The mind of Christ leads to peace.**