

# A Survey of the New Testament

## Lesson 17: Philippians

### “Rejoice in the Lord!”

May 22, 2019

**Summary:** Paul, using his own example, encourages the Philippians to rejoice even in the midst of suffering.

**Author:** \_\_\_\_\_

- The letter was a joint project with \_\_\_\_\_.
- Paul identified himself as the author (1:1).
- As with many of the prison epistles, suggesting another author is not practical.
- He has been traditionally identified as the author.

**Recipients:** \_\_\_\_\_ (Acts 16:12-40)

- This was the first city in Macedonia that Paul visited in response to the Macedonian Call.
- His first convert was a rich woman, \_\_\_\_\_, who sold purple cloth.
- After exorcising a demon-possessed girl, Paul and Silas were thrown unjustly into jail.
- Their divinely enacted release resulted in their jailor’s salvation.
- Philippi historically
  - The site of the Battle of Philippi in 42 B.C. about 100 years before the letter.
  - The city became a Roman colony with a guarantee of \_\_\_\_\_.
  - The residents structured their life to be as close to Rome as possible.
  - It became the residence of many \_\_\_\_\_ army veterans.

**Date:**

- When he was imprisoned in Rome
- After Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon
- Before his anticipated release (2:23-24).
- AD \_\_\_\_\_

**Important People:**

- Paul: The author
- Timothy: Joint author who would come to encourage the church
- \_\_\_\_\_: A Philippian who came to Rome to minister to Paul

**Christ in Philippians:** The \_\_\_\_\_ (2:5-11)

- The mind of Christ (2:5).
- Being equal to God was not more important than submitting to the Father’s will (2:6).
- Instead, He \_\_\_\_\_ Himself to the level of men, becoming as low as a servant (2:7).

- He was willing to die the lowest death of all on the cross (2:8).
- After this voluntary display of humility, God the Father \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus (2:9).
- The name of Jesus is now the \_\_\_\_\_ name at which all will eventually fall to their knees (2:10-11).

### Book Content Overview:

- Introduction (1:1)
- Prayer of joy for the Philippians (1:2-11)
- Paul's joy in \_\_\_\_\_ (1:12-20).
  - Some tried to antagonize him with the reason for his imprisonment (1:12-15).
  - Others were made bold by his example (1:17).
  - Either way God was glorified (1:18-20).
  - Paul's difficult desire (1:21-26)
  - He wanted to be with Christ (1:21-23).
  - But the churches needed him (1:24-26).
  - Belief will bring suffering (1:27-30).
- Paul's joy for the Philippians' \_\_\_\_\_ (2:1-18).
  - Serve others over yourself (2:1-4).
  - The example of Christ (2:5-11)
  - If they obey Paul's instructions, they will please him now and in the future (2:12-16).
  - Paul's confirmation of his intention to follow Jesus' example (2:17-18).
  - The coming messengers (2:19-30)
    - \_\_\_\_\_ will come soon to encourage them (2:19-24).
    - Paul is sending back Epaphroditus to allay the Philippians' worries (2:25-30).
- Rejoice in the \_\_\_\_\_ (3:1-4:4).
  - Beware of false teachers that try to add \_\_\_\_\_ to salvation (3:1-3).
  - Paul's old profitless works (3:4-10)
  - Paul's new profitable works (3:11-14)
  - Follow \_\_\_\_\_ and not the enemies of the cross (3:15-19).
  - Stand fast in the Lord (3:20-4:1).
  - Be unified in the Lord (4:2-4).
- Concluding remarks (4:5-22)
  - Do not worry. Instead, pray to God (4:6-7).
  - \_\_\_\_\_ thinking (4:8)
  - Paul's example of contentment (4:10-13)
  - Commending the Philippians for helping him (4:14-19)
- Conclusion (4:20-23)

### Key Theme: \_\_\_\_\_

- Rejoicing is difficult when times are hard, but Paul encouraged the Philippians to rejoice at all times.

- 1:18. Rejoice that Christ is preached.
- 2:16. Rejoice in the day of Christ that his race was not in vain.
- 2:17. Rejoice to be \_\_\_\_\_ up for them.
- 3:1 & 4:4. Rejoice in the Lord.
- 3:3. Rejoice ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) in the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Application: Do not complain. Rejoice in the Lord!**