

Philippians

Let this mind be in you which was in Christ Jesus

January Bible Study
Trinity Baptist Church
Arkansas City, Kansas
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OUTLINE

Introduction

Sunday A.M. Diamonds, Demons, and Dungeons,
 Acts 16

Sunday P.M. Introduction to the Book of Philippians,
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Monday That Which Satan Meant for Evil God Meant for Good,
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Tuesday To Live is Christ, to Die is Gain,
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Wednesday Take on the Mind of Christ,
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Sunday Morning

Diamonds, Demons & Dungeons, Acts 16:6-34

Introduction: Paul was set on Asia to the East, but God called him to Macedonia (Greece) which was to the West. It would not be for centuries later that the message of Jesus would be taken to the East.

Paul arrives in Philippi which was a Roman Colony. There is no Synagogue in the city but Paul learns there was a prayer meeting on the banks of the river on the Sabbath day so he goes there to present then Gospel.

- I. Diamonds in the rough. Acts, 16:11-15
 1. Diamonds are gems that have to be searched for and when you find one they look nothing like the diamonds in the jewelry store. They have to be cut and polished.
 2. Lydia was the diamond Paul was looking for. She became the first convert in Philippi.
 3. She did what came natural to her, she brought her household to Christ. Her house became the meeting place of the first church in Philippi. (Oh, how I wanted to call it the First Baptist Church of Philippi)
- II. Demons. Acts 16:16-18
 1. When searching for diamonds you sometimes find demons.
 - a. Any time the Spirit of God begins to move so does the spirit of evil; Philippi was no exception.
 - b. Most often demons will recognize Jesus in you before you recognize the demon in someone else.
 2. Demons torment.
 - a. The person who is possessed wants to be free.

- b. The demon knows what you are doing but fears the Christ in you.
2. Demons have to obey the powerful name of Jesus.

III. Dungeons, Acts 16: 19-34

1. Satan hates it to lose one his to the Lord.
 - a. Paul an Silas brought to the magistrates (police)
 - b. Beaton and thrown into Jail.
 - c. Respond with prayer and singing praise to the Lord.
2. The deliverance of God; He sends an earthquake
 - a. The earthquake comes.
 - b. The keeper of the prison is about to take his own life and Paul tells him he has not lost a single prisoner.
 - c. The keeper of the prison ask the most important question, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"
3. The answer: Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved.
 - a. The keeper is saved and his household.
 - b. Doctored their stripes and fed them.

Conclusion: Paul reveals he is a Roman Citizen and is set free but refuses to go until those who beat him and Silas come to free them.

Sunday Evening

Introduction to the Book of Philippians, Philippians 1:1-11

- I. The Salutations from a Roman Prison
 1. From: Paul and Timothy
 2. To: the saints in Philippi
 - a. Saints come from the Greek word hagios which means holy ones, separated from the world to God.
 - b. The saints include all professing believers in Christ.
 - c. When a sacrifice was made it was separated by a mark that said, “You are uniquely dedicated, consecrated, separated, set apart for God’s purpose” (Philippians, the Believer’s Joy in Christ, James T Draper, Jr. p.12
 3. With the Bishops and Deacons
 - a. The church has grown from the riverside to a well-organized church with leadership of Bishops and Deacons.
 - b. Bishops comes from the Greek word is episkopois meaning overseer or elders.
 - c. Deacons comes from the Greek word diakonis which literally means dia raising up and konis dust. One raising up dust by a servant.
 4. The Salutation
 - a. The Blessing: Grace be unto you, and peace....
 1. Impossible to have peace without first experiencing God’s Grace.
 2. From God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ
 3. Two words we Christians love are Grace and Mercy. Grace is the unmerited favor of God. An acrostic of grace is G. God’s R. Riches A. At C. Christ’s E. Expense
- II. The Remembrance
 1. Every remembrance of the church at Philippi causes Paul to thank God.
 - a. In the book the Tell of Two Cities it starts off with “It was the best of times and the worst of times” Many would believe Paul would have remembered the hard times in

Philippi but not so. He remembers the best of times and the church at Philippi causes him great joy every time he thinks of them.

- b. Paul prays for the church. Surly he was a Southern Baptist when he prays for “you all” we Okies just say y’all.

III. The Confidence In Christ

1. He which hath begun a good work in you.....
 - a. See Ephesians 2:8-10
 - b. We have been created for good works....
 - c. He is the vine we are the branches and apart from him we can do nothing. See John 15:1-5
2. Will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ.
 - a. Perform comes from the Greek word is epitelesei which is future active indicative of epiteleo. It is being done and will keep on being done until the day of Jesus Christ.
 - b. The day of Jesus Christ is His second coming.

IV. The Longing for the Church at Philippi

1. It is right for Paul to love them as he does.
 - a. They are in his heart...
 - b. In my bonds.....
 - c. In defense and confirmation of the gospel
2. V. 8 God is my witness
 - a. In the bowels of Jesus Christ. Bowels has nothing to do with anatomy but with the seat of emotion.

V. The prayer

1. Love may abound more and more.
2. In knowledge (of Jesus Christ)
3. And in judgment (Spiritual discernment)
4. May approve the things that are excellent.
5. Right attitude: sincere and without offence till the day of Jesus Christ.
6. Being filled with the fruits of righteousness...
 - a. See Galatians 5:22-23
 - b. Which are by Christ Jesus
 - c. Unto the glory and praise of God

Monday

That Which Satan meant for evil God Meant for Good. Genesis 50:20, Philippians 1:12-18

- I. What seems to be a curse many times is a blessing in disguise.
 1. Joseph is a great example. He came to realize all that had happened to him was for the furtherance of the will of God. See Genesis 50:20
 2. Paul understood that the things that had happened to him were for the furtherance of the gospel.
 - A. Being a Christian is not an exemption from trouble but God can take every circumstance in our life and turn it for good. See Romans 8:28
 - B. The accomplishment of the imprisonment.
 - a. Bonds are manifested in all the palace and other places.
 - b. Paul was chained to a praetorian guard. The praetorian guard were palace bodyguards used by Roman Emperors. The number of Praetorian guards numbered up to ten-thousand and were personally chosen by the Emperor. Can you imagine how many of the thousand guards Paul was chained too that heard the gospel, either directly or indirectly?
 - c. Everyone knew Paul was in prison for one reason, his faith in Christ.
 - d. The gospel was furthered because of his imprisonment rather than the opposite.
 - e. One of the great benefits of Paul being in jail was that it gave others who proclaimed the gospel the courage to speak even more boldly of their faith in Jesus. V.14
- II. Some were preaching Christ out of envy and strife.
 1. No different today, many preach who have not been called, the preaching ministry is a profession. (Not real bright to enter this field if you have not been called.)

2. Some were preaching because of the attention Paul got.
Many were not called by God but called by envy.
3. Some were preaching for the right reason, from good will.

III. Paul was thrilled that the gospel was being preached.

1. Whither in pretense or in truth if Christ is preached Paul was going to rejoice in it.
2. What a difference it would make to a lost world if churches could get along today; if there were no jealous hearts; if we could rejoice at the success of all true gospel ministries.

Let's make it our goal to have the right attitude this year and rejoice with all saints at the preaching of the gospel.

Tuesday

To Live Is Christ, and to Die Is Gain

Philippians 1:19-30

- I. Either Way We Win V. 19
 1. For I know.....Confidential Faith in God
 2. That this shall turn to my salvation.....shall turn comes from the Greek word apobēsetai which is future middle indicative of apobaino, to come from, to come back, or to turn out.
 3. To my salvation eis sōtērian....
 - a. Release from prison
 - b. To go home to be with the Lord
 - c. Little boy told he wanted to be babatized and I told him he needed to be saved first to which he proudly exclaimed he had been saved. When I asked him about his salvation he told that two boys were in the hall at school and getting ready to beat him up at which time he told me his teacher came out and saved him.
 - d. Soteriology is the study of salvation and in this verse it carries both the physical and spiritual application. Either way it goes Paul wins.
- II. Paul's Greatest Fear Was That He May Dishonor Christ V.20
 1. See I Corinthians 9:27
 2. Ernest Expectations is a compound from 3 words in the original language which mean to look away from what may be right at hand and totally concentrate on another object or literally "from" "ahead" "to look" (IBIBp.44) and hope that he would not become a coward but that with all boldness Christ would be magnified in his body. A microscope does not change the object you are looking at but it does magnify it so you can see it. That was what Paul was hoping for in what happened to himself, that Christ would be magnified.

3. By life or death
 - a. When I was in my coma Glenda tried to prepare our children for my life or death and that either way it would be okay. Oh that we could think Christ above all, even our own life.
- III. For to me to live is Christ and to die is gain.
1. To live is Christ.....
 - a. See John 15:5
 - b. See I Corinthians 10:31
 - c. See John 10:10
 2. To die is gain
 - a. The believer in Christ does not die in the sense of being separated from God but dies physically to be joined with God spiritually. See II Corinthians 5:8
 3. Choosing between heaven and earth is hard. V.22-24
 - a. After my coma I wanted to go home (not Tahlequah, OK) Glenda rocked me back to reality, I needed to come back for her and for my ministry.
 - b. Better for Paul to go, necessary the church at Philippi to stay.
 - c. Paul had confidence that he would remain and that it would bring great joy for the Philippian believers. V. 25-26
- IV. The Exhortation V. 27-30
1. Only let your (conversation) (manner of life) both are not the best translations of the Greek word politeuesthe which comes from the old verb politēs which means citizen, to manage your state of affairs in a way that it honors the gospel of Christ.
 2. Whether with them or absent Paul wants to hear that they are in one spirit, with one mind striving for the faith of the gospel. They are to be on the same team as athletes, striving for the same goal.
 3. As athletes one must endure the training and pain that goes into the game of life. We are not to be terrified of life or

what might be. I love the commercial of the little girl who says, "There are man eating sharks in every ocean of the world but we still swim in the ocean. Lightning strikes some in the world every 11 minutes but we still play in the rain." The idea is that life goes on and even though we believe in Christ wwe must also be ready to suffer for His sake.

4. Paul was using his own life as an example: If I can you can.

Wednesday

Take on the Mind of Christ

Philippians 2

- I. Don't Fall Into the Trap of Disharmony. V. 1
 1. The death nail of the church today is disharmony. We see it over and over, churches split over trivial things. Rarely does a split come from heresy.
 2. If there be therefore any consolation (incentive) in Christ....
 - a. Is there?
 3. If there be any comfort of love in Christ.....
 - a. Is there?
 4. If there is any fellowship (koinōnia) of the Spirit.....
 - a. Is there?
 5. If there are any bowels (seat of emotion) of mercy.....
 - a. Have you experienced God's mercy?
 6. Paul was saying we have some things in common that ought to outweigh all other emotions.
- II. Paul Would Have Complete Joy Knowing That They Were Remaining in one accord. V2
 1. Fulfil (plērōsate, better translated fill full) ye my joy....
 2. Four things Paul ask of them in this verse
 - a. Like minded.
 - b. Having the same love.
 - c. Be in one accord (harmony)
 - d. Be in one mind.
- III. Exhortation to be Humble. V. 3-4
 1. Avoid strife and vainglory. (empty pride)
 2. Esteem others better than yourself, another words be humble.
 3. Care for others and their prosperity.

- IV. Let This Mind Be in You, Which Was Also in Christ Jesus. V. 5-11
1. V. 5 is one of my favorite verses in all the Bible. If we could learn to live and think like Christ, just think how much better our world would be.
 2. Paul describes the mind of Christ through the next 6 verses.
 - a. Form of God thought it not robbery to be equal with God.
 - b. Took on the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of man.
 - c. Obedient to the death of the cross.
 - d. Result. God has highly exalted Him, and given Him a name that is above every name.
 - e. Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
- V. Work Out Your Own Salvation With Fear and Trembling
1. It is not saying we earn our salvation. Our salvation is a free gift from God, but we do work out of our salvation a life that is pleasing to Him or is displeasing to him. We remain in free will to accept God's will for our life or to live in our own will. There are consequences for both.
 2. Fear and trembling is not terror but wholesome, serious caution.
 3. A good criteria to live by is to live all the time as if others are watching and knowing that all the time God is watching. Paul wants whether he is there or absent to hear of their affairs that it is pleasing to God.
- VI. Paul's personal note to the church. V. 17-30

Thursday

Press On

Chapter 3

- I. It's not a burden to tell you over and over. V. 1-3
 1. Rejoice in the lord.
 2. Beware of dogs, (those who will tell you that you have to have the flesh cut away...to go back under the law.
 3. Spiritual circumcision is the most important
 4. See Romans 2:28-29.
- II. Another Great Threat to the Church Today Is Legalism V. 4-6
 1. There are modern day Pharisees.
 2. Pharisees are the pious ones, judgmental and critical to others.
 3. If you base your character on dogma, confidence in self or the flesh you are going to miss out what is best in the Christian faith and heart.
 4. Paul's pedigree and resume would demand attention according to religion and man, but not to God.
 5. Paul had the record of being zealous but for the wrong reason.
- III. Paul Counts All Things Loss For the Excellency of the Knowledge of Christ. V. 7-9
 1. What used to be now is not. Can you think of things in your life that used to be so important but now have lost their importance? What changed?
 2. Key importance is the righteousness that comes through the faith in Christ.

IV. Press Toward the Mark of the High Calling of God in Christ Jesus. V. 10-14

1. Paul's desire was that he would know Him (Jesus) and the Power of His resurrection....
 - a. To know Jesus is a lifelong process.
 - b. To know the power of the resurrection is to unlock power for the believer that surpasses all understanding.
 - c. We are hindered so much by the lack of understanding of who we are in Jesus Christ and the power we possess because of the resurrected Christ in us.
 - d. Think of the power Paul experienced in his life time. See II Corinthians 11-30
2. Paul did not reach perfection but that was his goal. V. 13
 - a. Forgetting those things that are behind and pressing (stretching forward) to the High calling of God.

V. Be Careful Who You Follow V. 17-19

1. Would you be as bold as Paul to say to your church, follow my example? If you cannot, you should. Paul knew he was not perfect, he has already told us that but he was living to the best of his ability to be like Christ and to set an example for others to follow.
2. He also warns of following people who would lead you astray.

VI. The Great Expectation V. 20-21

1. Our conversation ought to be upward, that is of heavenly things.
2. We are looking for our savior to come again, maybe with a more fervent zeal than we have ever had before.
3. Looking forward to the change from our vile body to our glorified body.

Friday

Rejoice In the Lord Always and Again I Say Rejoice

Philippians 4

- I. The Closing and Final thoughts
 1. Therefore my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown.....V.1
 - a. Do you think Paul cared for and love the church at Philippi?
 2. Stand fast in the lord my dearly beloved...
 - a. Don't be tempted to defect.
 - b. Remain in the spirit of unity.
- II. Resolve Your Conflicts before they get out of hand. V. 2-4
 1. I beseech Euodias (name means, Prosperous Journey and Syntyche (name means, pleasant acquaintance) isn't it ironic that the two women with such wonderful meanings behind their name could not get along?
 - a. Paul urges them to be of the same mind.
 2. Paul wants to love them back into a right relationship with the church. And for the church to not take sides.
 - a. Help them for their names are also written in the book of life.
- III. I Do Not Believe in Peace at Any Cost but I Do Believe in Peace at the Right Cost V.5-7
 1. Peace comes when your moderation is known to all men.
 2. Peace comes when we learn not to be anxious about anything.
 3. Peace come by prayer and supplication (fellowship with God)
 4. Peace comes when we pray with thanksgiving.
 5. And the Peace of God, which passes all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

IV. Think on These V. 8-9

1. Paul gave the church something to think about.
2. Whatever things are true....
 - a. Is there any real truth in the world today?
 - b. Share what you know to be true about Jesus.
Make a list.
 - c. Whatever things are honest.....
Make a list.
 - d. Whatever things are just.....
Make a list
 - e. Whatever things are pure....
Make a list
 - f. Whatever things are lovely...
Make a list
 - g. Whatever things are of good report....
Make a list
 - h. If there be any virtue and if there be any praise think on these.

V. BE SATISFIED WITH WHAT YOU HAVE IN CHRIST V. 10-13

1. Paul is thankful for their prayer and support.
2. The lesson Paul has learned in life: "I have learned, in whatever state I am, therewith to be content."
3. Regardless of the circumstances Paul knows one thing, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."

VI. The Final Lesson V. 14-23

Key verse 19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus