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# To the Philippians

## Chapter One

Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Christ Jesus, to all the holy ones in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: <sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from Godde, our Mother, and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>3</sup>I thank my Godde whenever I remember you, <sup>4</sup>always praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the good news from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that she who started a good work in you will complete it by the day of Christ Jesus. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because I have you in my heart, for both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the good news you are all partners with me in grace. <sup>8</sup>As Godde is my witness, I long for all of you with the tender mercies of Christ Jesus.

<sup>9</sup>I pray that your love may overflow more and more in knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is best and may be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>being filled with the fruit of justice which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of Godde.

<sup>12</sup>Now I want you to know, sisters and brothers, that what has happened to me has actually advanced the good news; <sup>13</sup>it has become known to the whole palace guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ <sup>14</sup>and most of the sisters and brothers in the Lord, being confident because of my imprisonment, dare to speak the word of Godde fearlessly.

<sup>15</sup>Some do proclaim Christ out of envy and strife, but others also out of goodwill. <sup>16</sup>The latter do so out of love, knowing that I was appointed for the defense of the good news; <sup>17</sup>the former insincerely proclaim Christ out of rivalry, thinking to stir up trouble for me in my imprisonment.

<sup>18</sup>What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether out of false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed. I rejoice in this, yes, and will rejoice, <sup>19</sup>because I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ. <sup>20</sup>I eagerly expect and hope that I will not be ashamed of anything, but with all courage, now as always, Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup>Because to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup>But if I continue living in the flesh, this will bring fruit from my work; but I don't know what I will choose. <sup>23</sup>I am torn between the two, wanting to leave and be with Christ, which is far better. <sup>24</sup>But to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. <sup>25</sup>Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that your boasting may abound in Christ Jesus in me when I come to you again.

<sup>27</sup>Just let your way of life be worthy of the good news of Christ so that whether I come to see you or not, I may hear about you that you stand firm in one spirit, in solidarity contending for the faith of the good news, <sup>28</sup>in no way scared by the enemies, which is for them proof of destruction, but to you of life, and that from Godde. <sup>29</sup>Because it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to trust in him, but also to suffer for him, <sup>30</sup>having the same struggle which you saw in me, and now hear is in me.

## Chapter Two

So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation of love, any partnership of the Spirit, any tender mercies and compassion, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete by being like-minded, having the same love, being united, of one mind; <sup>3</sup>doing nothing through rivalry or through pride, but humbly regarding others better than yourselves; <sup>4</sup>each of you not just looking to your own interests, but to the interests of others.

<sup>5</sup>Have this attitude, which was also in Christ Jesus:

<sup>6</sup>who, being in the form of Godde,  
didn't consider equality with Godde  
a thing to be grasped,  
<sup>7</sup>but emptied herself,  
taking the form of a bondservant,  
being made in human likeness.  
<sup>8</sup>And being found in human form,  
he humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to death,  
even death on a cross.

<sup>9</sup>So Godde also highly exalted him,  
and gave to him the name  
above every name;  
<sup>10</sup>that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of Godde the Mother.

<sup>12</sup>So then, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not only when I was with you but now much more while I'm away, work out your own deliverance with reverence and awe, <sup>13</sup>because it is Godde who works in you both to will and to work for her good pleasure. <sup>14</sup>Do everything without complaining and arguing <sup>15</sup>so that you may become blameless and innocent, children of Godde without blemish among a crooked and stubborn generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup>upholding the word of life so that I may have something to boast about in the day of Christ, that I didn't run in vain or work in vain. <sup>17</sup>But even if I am poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice, and rejoice with all of you. <sup>18</sup>You also rejoice in the same way, and rejoice with me.

<sup>19</sup>I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered up too when I know how you are doing; <sup>20</sup>because I have no one but him who will truly care about you as I do. <sup>21</sup>For they all look to their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. <sup>22</sup>But you know he has proven himself, that as a child serves a father, so he served with me in the good news. <sup>23</sup>So I hope to send him immediately, as soon as I see how things go with me. <sup>24</sup>But I trust in the Lady that I will come soon too. <sup>25</sup>I thought I needed to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, co-worker and fellow soldier, your apostle and minister of my need, <sup>26</sup>since he longed for all of you and was very anxious, because you had heard that he was sick. <sup>27</sup>He really was sick, and nearly died, but Godde had mercy on him. And not just on him, but on me too, so that I might not have sorrow on top of sorrow. <sup>28</sup>So I have sent him all the more eagerly, so that when you see him again you may rejoice, and so that I may be less sorrowful. <sup>29</sup>So welcome him in the Lady with all joy, and honor such people, <sup>30</sup>because for the work of Christ he nearly died, risking his life to make up for the help you could not give me.

### Chapter Three

Finally, my sisters and brothers, rejoice in the Lady! It's no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, but it's safer for you. <sup>2</sup>Watch out for the dogs, watch out for the evildoers, watch out for the mutilators! <sup>3</sup>For we are the circumcision, who worship Godde in the Spirit and boast in Christ Jesus, and who have no confidence in the flesh; <sup>4</sup>even though I could have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks they have reasons to have confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, of

the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the Torah, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as for zeal, harassing the community; as for the justice of the Torah, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>But those things that were gain to me, I have counted as loss for Christ. <sup>8</sup>Even more than that, I count all things as loss for the invaluable knowledge of Christ Jesus, my Lord, for whom I suffered the loss of all things, regarding them as nothing more than garbage so that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having my own justice -- that which is of the Torah -- but that which is through the trust of Christ, the justice of Godde based on trust. <sup>10</sup>I want to know him, the power of his resurrection, and the partnership of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death -- <sup>11</sup>if I may somehow arrive at the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained, or have already reached the goal; but I press on so that I may take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

<sup>13</sup>Sisters and brothers, I don't regard myself as yet having taken hold of it, but this one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and reaching forward to what is ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the high calling of Godde in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup>So as many of us are mature, let us think this way. If you think otherwise, Godde will reveal that to you too. <sup>16</sup>Nevertheless, to the extent that we have already arrived, let us live by the same rule.

<sup>17</sup>Sisters and brothers, join together in following my example and observe those who live this way, even as you have us for an example; <sup>18</sup>because as I've often told you, and now tell you with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup>Their end is destruction, their deity is the belly, and their glory is in their shame; they think about earthly things. <sup>20</sup>But our citizenship is in heaven, from where we also wait for a Life-Giver, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup>who will change the body of our humiliation to be like the body of his radiance, according to the working of his power by which he is even able to subject all things to himself.

## Chapter Four

So then, my sisters and brothers whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lady, my beloved! <sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and Syntyche to think the same way in the Lady. <sup>3</sup>Yes, I beg you also, true Syzygus, help these women, because they worked with me in the good news, along with Clement and the rest of my co-workers whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lady always! Again I will say, Rejoice! <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and petition with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to Godde. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of Godde, which exceeds all understanding, will guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, sisters and brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable; if there is anything valuable and praiseworthy, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Do the things that you learned, received, heard, and saw in me, and the Godde of peace will be with you.

<sup>10</sup> I rejoice in the Lady greatly that now at last you have revived your concern for me. True, you were concerned about me, but you had no opportunity to show it. <sup>11</sup>I am not saying this because I am in need, because I have learned to be content in whatever state I am. <sup>12</sup>I know how to be humbled, and I know how to have more than enough too. In any and all things I have learned the secret of being well-fed and being hungry, both to have more than enough and to be in need. <sup>13</sup>I can do all things through the one who strengthens me. <sup>14</sup>But it was good of you to become partners in my troubles.

<sup>15</sup>You Philippians also know that in the beginning of the good news, when I left Macedonia, no community partnered with me in the matter of giving and receiving except you. <sup>16</sup>Even in Thessalonica you sent me help more than once. <sup>17</sup>Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the profit that accumulates to your account. <sup>18</sup>But I have all things and have more than enough. I am filled, having received your gifts from Epaphroditus. They are a sweet-smelling fragrance, an acceptable and well-pleasing sacrifice to Godde.

<sup>19</sup>My Godde will meet all your needs according to her riches in radiance in Christ Jesus. <sup>20</sup>Now to our Godde and Mother be the glory forever and ever! Amen.

<sup>21</sup>Greet every holy one in Christ Jesus. The sisters and brothers who are with me send their greetings.

<sup>22</sup>All the holy ones send their greetings, especially those who are of part of Caesar's household.

<sup>23</sup>May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.