

22 whom I have sent to you for this very purpose, will inform you ; so that you may know about us, and may console
23 your hearts. Peace to the brethren and faithful love from a Father God, and a Lord Jesus Christ. Grace be

with all those who love our Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity.

(Written from Rome, about 61 A.D., and conveyed to the Ephesian and other Assemblies by Tychicus.)

EPISTLE OF PAUL THE APOSTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS.

Introduction.

1 **P**AUL and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the holy in Christ Jesus living in Philippi, with overlookers and ministers:
2 Blessing and peace to you, from our Father, God, and Lord Jesus Christ.
3 I thank my God, whenever I remember you, continually in all my
4 prayers with gladness making supplication for you all, since you were associated in the gospel, from the first
5 day until now. Confident of this, that the originator of a good work in you will perfect it until the day of
6 Christ Jesus. And it is right for me to think this of you all; for I had you in my heart in my imprisonment, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, all of you being my companions in the Divine commission.
7 For my God is a witness, how I long for you all, with the affections of
8 Jesus Christ. And I pray for this, so that your love may extend more and more in knowledge and all perception,
9 to distinguish the differences, so that you may be clear and certain in the
10 day of Christ, full of the fruit of righteousness through Jesus Christ for the honour and praise of God.

The Apostle triumphant in Persecution.

12 But, friends, I wish you to know that my affair has turned out well, greatly to the promotion of the gospel;
13 so that my imprisonment for Christ has been seen in the whole palace,
14 and to all the others. And most of the brethren in the Lord, made confident by my chains, dare very boldly

and fearlessly to publish the message of God. Some, however, through
15 envy and strife, but some from conviction, preach Christ: these indeed
16 from love, seeing that I suffer in defence of the gospel; while the others
17 from intrigue, not honestly, proclaim Christ, thinking to add sorrow to my imprisonment. What then? except
18 that in every way, whether by pretence or whether sincerely, Christ is proclaimed; and in that I delight, and shall continue to be glad. Because I
19 know that this will result through your prayers in safety to me; and an additional supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ: according to my strong con-
20 viction and hope that I shall never be disgraced; but, on the contrary, with perfectly free speech now, as then, Christ will be grandly displayed in my person, whether through life or through death. For to me, life is
21 Christ—death a gain!

But if to live in the body—that produces labour for me—then I do not know what to ask. Now I am possessed by the two, having the desire to be freed and to be with Christ, by far the better; but to remain in the body is most essential for you. And relying upon this, I know that I shall remain and stay with you all for your improvement and benefit by the faith; so that your exultation in Christ Jesus by me may increase, through my presence again among you.

Only conduct yourselves in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ; so that whether coming and seeing you, or whether hearing about you in absence, you may stand in one spirit, one mind, contending for the Good News of the Faith; and never terrified by the
28

enemy under any circumstances—
 which is to them a demonstration of
 destruction; but for you, of salvation,
 29 and that from God. Because He has
 shown favour to you, for the sake of
 Christ; not only to believe in Him,
 30 but also to suffer for Him, having the
 same struggle that you observed in
 me, and now hear regarding me.

Christ, the Pattern of Humility.

2 If then, there is any encouragement
 in Christ, if any consolation from love,
 if any community of spirit, if any ten-
 2 der feelings and pity, fill my joy full;
 so that you may agree in thought,
 possessing the same love, intending
 with united hearts the same object.
 3 Never in self-seeking nor through vain-
 glory; but, on the contrary, with good
 feeling considering others in prefer-
 4 ence to yourselves, not each scheming
 for himself, but rather each for others.
 5 Think this with yourselves, What was
 6 in Christ Jesus?—Who existing in the
 beauty of God, considered not His
 Divine equality an incitement to
 7 greed; but forsook Himself, taking
 8 the form of a slave; arriving in
 human appearance; and being found
 apparently like a man, He humbled
 Himself, becoming subject to death,
 9 yes, a death of crucifixion! Therefore
 God highly exalted Him, and freely
 gave Him the Name surpassing every
 10 name; so that in presence of the name
 of Jesus every knee should bend, of
 11 celestials, and terrestrials, and sub-
 terrenes, and every tongue confess
 that the Messiah, the Lord Jesus,
 exists for a rectification from God.

Exhortation to Fidelity.

12 So then, my beloved, as you have
 at all times been obedient, not only
 when in my presence, but much more
 now in my absence, work out your
 own salvation amidst fear and terror;
 13 for God is energizing in you both to
 will and to do for the sake of His ap-
 14 probation. Do all without grudging
 15 and disputes; so that you may be-
 come blameless and pure, beautiful
 children of God, in the midst of a
 deformed, degenerate race—among
 whom you will shine like bright lights
 16 to the whole world—possessing a
 reason for life, to my delight in the
 day of Christ: for then I shall not have
 run for nothing, nor have worked in
 17 vain. Yet even if I am exhausted in
 the sacrifice and service of your faith,

I will still rejoice and congratulate
 with you all; and you also be glad 18
 and congratulate me.

Paul's Messengers Commended.

But I hope in the Lord Jesus soon 19
 to send Timothy to you, so that I my-
 self may be encouraged by hearing
 about you. For I have no other fellow 20
 spirit who is so anxious for a know-
 ledge of your affairs; because they 21
 all seek their own business, not that
 of Jesus Christ. But you know his 22
 worth; for he slaved with me in the
 gospel, like a son for his father. I 23
 hope, therefore, to send him for this,
 as soon as I have ascertained about
 my affairs here. And I am confident 24
 in the Lord that I also shall come soon.

I have, however, thought it ne- 25
 cessary to send to you my brother
 and companion in work and war,
 Epaphroditus, who was your mes-
 senger, and attendant to my wants;
 for he was always longing for you, 26
 and was depressed because you had
 heard that he had been sick. And he 27
 was ill—very near death. But God
 pitied him; and not only him, but my-
 self also, so that I might not have
 sorrow heaped upon sorrow. There- 28
 fore I have sent him more willingly,
 so that seeing him again you may be
 glad, and I may also be more pleased.
 So take him with every pleasure 29
 in the Lord, and hold such as he
 in honour; because for the work of 30
 Christ he approached death, disre-
 garding his own life, so that he might
 accomplish your offering to my wants.

The Apostle's high Ambition.

For the rest, my friends, rejoice in 3
 the Lord! It is no trouble for me to
 write this to you, but safe for your-
 selves.

Beware of the cynics; beware of 2
 those men of foul life; beware of the
 concision. For we are the circum- 3
 cision, who worship through a Divine
 Spirit, and exult in Christ Jesus, and
 do not place confidence in an exter-
 nal appearance; although I might 4
 also have confidence in an external
 appearance. If any think well to
 trust in an appearance, I can much
 more: in eighth-day circumcision, of 5
 the race of Israel, tribe of Benjamin,
 a Hebrew of Hebrews; regarding
 ritual, a Pharisee; as to zeal, perse- 6
 cutting the Church; being blameless

in a righteousness which is contained in ritual.

- 7 But what might have been a gain to me, that I considered a loss for
8 Christ. Nay, further; I also consider them all to be a loss, compared to the possession of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: by which I lost everything, and consider it to be
9 refuse if I can gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not possessing my ritualistic righteousness, but that through the faith of Christ, the righteousness from God by the faith;
10 so as to know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the association with His sufferings, being assimilated
11 to His death—so that in any way I may attain to the resurrection that is from the dead. Not that I have now attained it, or am now perfected: but I ran so that I might carry it off; and I was also laid hold of by Christ.
13 Brothers, I do not consider myself to have won it; but one thing, forgetting the past, and straining to those in front, I rush along the track for the prize of the supreme call of God in
14 Christ Jesus. As many of us therefore who are perfect, let us have this before us; and if you put anything else before you, may God reveal this
16 to you. Beyond what we have attained to—let us go straight to that.
17 Become my imitators, brethren, and look out those who walk thus, as you
18 have our model; for many conduct themselves—of whom I have often spoken to you, but now I say it weeping—as enemies of the cross of Christ:
19 whose end is perdition, whose god their sensuality, and their boast in their shame; they think of what is
20 upon earth. But our policy consists in possessing an object in heaven: from where also we expect a Saviour,
21 the Lord Jesus Christ, Who will transform the body of our humility, making it like the body of His majesty, by the internal working of His power; and
4 He will subject all to Himself. Consequently, my beloved and longed-for brothers, my delight and crown, stand thus in the Lord, my beloved.
2 I advise Euodia and I advise Syntyche to agree together in the Lord;
3 yes, I implore you also, true yoke-fellow, to take them together again: they assisted me as well as Clement and the rest of my companions in the gospel, whose names are in the Book of Life.

General Exhortations.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again 4
I say, Rejoice!

Let your good conduct be known 5
to all men. The Lord is near! Never 6
fret, but in all circumstances, with prayer and entreaty, with thanksgiving, make your requests known before God. And the peace of God, 7
surpassing all thought, will guard your hearts and thoughts in Christ Jesus.

Further, brothers, whatever is true, 8
whatever is solemn, whatever is right, whatever pure, whatever loveable, whatever graceful, if anything virtuous, and if anything honourable—meditate upon these. And what you 9
learnt, and accepted, and heard, and know by me—practise that; and the God of peace will be with you.

But I rejoiced greatly in the Lord, 10
because now again you aroused yourselves to think about me: about whom you thought before, but had no opportunity. Not, however, that I speak 11
through want; for I have learnt in whatever state I am to be master of myself. I am experienced both in 12
want and plenty; and in all and everything I am initiated to superfluity and starvation. I am equal to anything 13
through Him Who strengthens me. However, you have done well in contributing to me during my affliction. 14
But you should also know, Philippians, 15
that in the early days of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no assembly communicated with me, in the matter of giving and receiving, except you alone; and that in Thessalonica, both 16
a first and second time, you sent something for my use. Not that I ask for 17
gifts; but I seek for the fruit that will increase to your own account. But I 18
now possess all, and have abundance; I am filled, having received by Epaphroditus your present—a sweet perfume, an acceptable, pleasing offering to God. And may God satisfy all 19
your wants according to His wealth and majesty in Christ Jesus. And to 20
God and our Father be the honour for ever and ever. Amen.

In Christ Jesus salute all the saints. 21
The brethren with me salute you. All 22
the holy salute you, especially those of the Emperor's household. The 23
grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirits.

Written to the Philippians from Rome, 61-62 A.D., and sent by Epaphroditus.