

INTRODUCTION TO Philippians

READ ALONG

☐ 04/30-05/01 Philippians 1-4

WHERE IS IT IN THE BIBLE?

- 47. 2 CORINTHIANS
- 48. GALATIANS
- 49. EPHESIANS
- 50. **PHILIPPIANS**
- 51. COLOSSIANS
- 52. 1 THESSALONIANS
- 53. 2 THESSALONIANS

KEY THEMES

- True joy does not come from one’s circumstances. Paul rejoices while in prison and encourages his readers to rejoice always in the Lord (4:4).
- The Christian’s life is one of humility. The Philippians are told to follow the example of Jesus, who placed the interests of others over His own (2:1-11).
- Salvation is not of works. Paul’s confidence is not in his accomplishments, it is in the righteousness that comes through faith in Christ (3:2-11).
- The necessity for spiritual growth and progress. Paul encourages the Philippian Christians to work out their salvation with fear and trembling (2:12), pressing on to receive their heavenly reward (3:14), all the while trusting that God is working in their lives (2:13) to complete that which He has started (1:6).

BOOK BASICS



DATE
60-63 AD



TYPE
Epistle



AUTHOR
Paul

OCCASION

The book of Philippians is a letter, that Paul wrote to the church at Philippi which he planted on his second missionary journey (Acts 16). Paul wrote this letter during his first Roman imprisonment (60-63 AD) to thank the Philippians for their personal care and their generous support of his ministry (4:14-20).

MESSAGE

Paul encourages the Philippian Christians to press on in their faith until they reach spiritual maturity that is marked by lasting joy (1:25). Paul reminds them that true joy is not based on circumstances, but rather is a result of believing the good news that Jesus died for their sins on the cross and was raised from the dead by God (2:5-11). He challenges the Philippian church to imitate him as he rejoices during difficult circumstances, pressing on toward the heavenly goal promised by God through faith in Christ (3:12-17).

BASIC STRUCTURE

4 CHAPTERS

