

### CHAPTER 1

**P**AUL and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

2 Grace *be* unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and *from* the Lord Jesus Christ.

3. I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,

4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,

5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

7. Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace.

8 For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.

9. And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and *in* all judgment;

10 That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;

11 Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

12. But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things *which happened* unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;

13 So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other *places*;

14 And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

15 Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will:

16 The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds:

17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel.

18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

19 For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

20 According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but *that* with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether *it be* by life, or by death.

21. For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.

22 But if I live in the flesh, this *is* the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.

23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

24 Nevertheless to abide in the flesh *is* more needful for you.

25 And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith;

26 That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.

27. Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

28 And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

30 Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

## CHAPTER 2

**I**F *there be* therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, *being* of one accord, of one mind.

3 *Let* nothing *be done* through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

4 Look not every man on his

own things, but every man also on the things of others.

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

11 And *that* every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ *is* Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

12. Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

13 For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

14. Do all things without mur-

murings and disputings:

15 That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse nation, among whom ye shine as lights in the world;

16 Holding forth the word of life; that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run in vain, neither laboured in vain.

17 Yea, and if I be offered upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I joy, and rejoice with you all.

18 For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.

19 But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state.

20 For I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state.

21 For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's.

22 But ye know the proof of him, that, as a son with the father, he hath served with me in the gospel.

23 Him therefore I hope to send presently, so soon as I shall see how it will go with me.

24 But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly.

25 Yet I supposed it necessary to

send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.

26 For he longed after you all, and was full of heaviness, because that ye had heard that he had been sick.

27 For indeed he was sick nigh unto death: but God had mercy on him; and not on him only, but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

28 I sent him therefore the more carefully, that, when ye see him again, ye may rejoice, and that I may be the less sorrowful.

29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness; and hold such in reputation:

30 Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.

### CHAPTER 3

**F**INALLY, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed *is* not grievous, but for you *it is* safe.

2 Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the concision.

3 For we are the circumcision, which worship God in the spirit,

and rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh.

4. Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

5 Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee;

6 Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

7 But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

8 Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

9. And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

16 Nevertheless, whereto we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us mind the same thing.

17. Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample.

18 (For many walk, of whom I have told you often, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* the enemies of the cross of Christ:

19 Whose end *is* destruction, whose God *is their* belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame, who mind earthly things.)

20 For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:

21 Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.

#### CHAPTER 4

**T**HEREFORE, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, *my* dearly beloved.

2 I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.

3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and *with* other my fellowlabourers, whose names *are* in the book of life.

4 Rejoice in the Lord always: *and* again I say, Rejoice.

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

6 Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplica-

tion with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are* pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

10. But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content.

12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through

Christ which strengtheneth me.

14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.

15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity.

17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things *which were sent* from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

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

20. Now unto God and our Father *be* glory for ever and ever. Amen.

21 Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you.

22 All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household.

## 23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ *be* with you all. Amen.

¶ It was written to the Philippians from Rome by Epaphroditus.

### DEVOTIONAL COMMENTS

Philippi was a “little Rome” in the midst of a Greek culture. The soil there was very fertile and the land was noted for its farming and its gold. It was governed by Roman laws and completely subject to Roman rule. The first church founded in Europe was planted by Paul in Philippi (see Acts 16) on his second missionary journey. After Paul moved on to Thessalonica, the Philippian believers sent support to him (Philippians 4:15 and II Corinthians 11:9). Five years later, while on his third journey, Paul visited Philippi on the way to Corinth, and then on the return trip (Acts 20:1-6). There seemed to be a deep love between Paul and the people of Philippi.

Paul had several purposes for writing this letter to the Philippians: (1) To explain his circumstances to friends who were concerned about him; (2) to explain the ministry of Epaphroditus and defend him to his critics; (3) to thank them again for their generous support; and (4) to encourage them in the Christian life.

The key thought in Philippians is joy. “Joy” and “rejoice” are mentioned over and over in these four brief chapters. Another emphasis is the mind. As you read Philippians, note how many times Paul talks about the mind, remembering, thoughts, etc. We can summarize the theme of the book as “the person who has a Christ-like mind will have Christian joy.”

Paul teaches us much about Christ in this epistle. In chapter 1 we see Christ is our life; in chapter 2 our example; in chapter 3 our goal; and in chapter 4 our strength.

The word “sin” is nowhere mentioned in Philippians, and the only suggestion of sorrow is in chapter 3:18 where Paul weeps over the worldly minded people who dishonor Christ.

Two wonderful promises are found in chapter 4:13,19. Every Christian should memorize these two great verses and say them over and over again! Christ truly is our strength and our provision in all things. If we do all things through Him who gives us the energy, He will provide all of our needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Paul believed in the providence of God; that God was in control of events, and that He was able to meet every need. When the child of God is in the will of God, all things work for him; but when he is out of the will of God, everything works against him. This is the providence of God.

### PROVERB FOR TODAY

“A fool despiseth his father’s instruction: but he that regardeth reproof is prudent” (Proverbs 15:5).

### TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING

Spend this month reviewing the previous 13 lessons. For today, review Memory Verse Assignment 36 (found on page 9).

### HYMN FOR THE DAY

#### WHAT CHILD IS THIS?

*William C. Dix, 1837-1898*

The question asked in this well-loved carol must have been uppermost in the minds of those present at Jesus’ birth. We can almost hear the question being asked from one to another as they gazed into the humble manger. How difficult it must have been for them to understand that the babe who lay in “such mean estate” was truly the promised Messiah. And through the centuries men have continued to ponder who Christ really is—how can He be fully God and still fully man? Only through divine faith comes the revealed answer.

*He who is the Bread of Life began His ministry hungering.*

*He who is the Water of Life ended His ministry thirsty. Christ hungered as man, yet fed the multitudes as God.*

*He was weary, yet He is our rest.*

*He prayed, yet He hears prayers.*

*He was sold for 30 pieces of silver, yet He redeems sinners.*

*He was led as a lamb to the slaughter, yet He is the Good Shepherd.*

*He died, and by dying destroyed death.*

-Unknown

How beautifully the triumphant answer to this imposing question bursts forth in the refrain— “This, this is Christ the King.”

This thoughtful text was written by William Dix, one of our finest lay hymn writers. While a successful insurance salesman in Glasgow, Scotland, he was stricken with a sudden serious illness at the age of 29. Dix was confined to bed for an extended period and suffered deep depression until he called out to God and “met Him in a new and real way.” Out of this spiritual experience came many artistic and dis-

tinctive hymns, including this delightful carol. It was taken from a longer Christmas poem, "The Manger Throne," written by William Dix about 1865. The melody "Green Sleeves" is a traditional English folk tune.

*What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
while shepherds watch are keeping?*

*Why lies He in such mean estate  
where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear—for sinners here  
the silent Word is pleading.*

*So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh—  
some, rich and poor, to own Him;  
the King of kings salvation brings—  
let loving hearts enthrone Him.*

*Refrain:  
This, this is Christ the King,  
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud—  
the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

## **BIRTHDAY TODAY**

### **CATHERINE THOMAS**

## **ON THIS DATE IN HISTORY**

**1952**

### **JACK HYLES BECAME PASTOR OF THE MILLER ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH.**

On December 10, 1952, Brother Hyles became pastor of the Miller Road Baptist Church in Garland, Texas. Forty-four people welcomed him that first Monday. Twenty-two voted in the election of the pastor; nineteen for him, two neutral, and one undecided. They had one building valued at \$6,000. There were no pews; only concrete was on the floors. There was no choir. They had just a crude building made of old-fashioned Arkansas block tile. For six years, eight months and two weeks, Dr. Hyles pastored this great church.

The church grew to 4,128. Literally thousands of people were saved. The original building was enlarged twice; a one-story educational building was built; another story was added to this educational building; five houses and lots were purchased; a chapel seating two hundred was built; an auditorium seating nearly one thousand was built; and later this

auditorium was doubled. Some of the greatest Christians Dr. Hyles ever met came from this great church. There are now many pastors, full-time workers, and missionaries who were saved during those six years, eight months and two weeks. One of the greatest works that was done, however, was done in the heart of Dr. Jack Hyles as these dear people patiently followed in spite of mistakes and human weaknesses.

**1817**

### **MISSISSIPPI WAS ADMITTED TO THE UNION.**

Let us pray for our brethren in Mississippi. Pray for your friends there and for the preachers whom you know in this great state.

**1911**

### **CHET HUNTLEY WAS BORN.**

Let us thank God today for the news commentators who keep us informed of the events of our day.

**1735**

### **JOHN WESLEY SAILED FOR GEORGIA.**

Thank God for John Wesley, for the books he left us, for the movement he started, for the songs he wrote, and for his influence upon even our generation.

John Wesley had some wonderful meetings in Georgia. After he left to go back to England, it is said that a Negro man traveled hundreds of miles to come to the very spot where Wesley had preached in a Georgia city. Kneeling at this spot, a tear rolling down his black cheeks, looking up into Heaven, he cried, "Lawd, do it again!" Let us pray the same prayer today.

**1958**

### **THE FIRST DOMESTIC JET AIRLINE PASSENGER SERVICE IN THE UNITED STATES.**

What a tremendous blessing this has been. It is nothing unusual for people to fly three or four thousand miles a week. My, how much we ought to get done for God with this help in speeding up our travel. Let us thank God for this means of transportation and the privilege of living in the same generation with it.

## **ON THIS DATE IN AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY**

**1964**

Nobel Peace Prize awarded to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.

**1971**

William H. Rehnquist confirmed as Supreme Court justice despite opposition of civil rights organizations.



## **MEMORY VERSE ASSIGNMENT 36 (for review):**

Please spend time reviewing these memory verses. If you have been completing the assignments in the TREASURE PATH TO SOUL WINNING, then you already have spent a week memorizing the Scriptures below. Now it's time to review!

### **EVIDENCE OF DIVINE INSPIRATION:**

**Divine inspiration evident in that the scriptures correct those who are trapped in error.**

#### **C. THE ERROR THAT GOD IS TOO KIND TO DAMN ANYONE**

(     ) Psalms 9:17

The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all the nations that forget God.

(     ) II Thessalonians 1:7

And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels,

(     ) II Thessalonians 1:8

In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:

(     ) II Thessalonians 1:9

Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power;

(     ) Revelation 20:10

And the devil that deceived them was cast into the lake of fire and brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are, and shall be tormented day and night for ever and ever.