

Lion and Lamb Apologetics'

Exploring the Book of Philippians

JOHN PHILLIPS, THD

Complete Outline of the Book of Philippians

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I. Paul's Triumphant Experiences (Phil 1:1–30)

1. The Prisoner and His Pen (Phil 1:1–8)
 1. Paul Was Thinking of the Philippians (Phil 1:1–2)
 1. Ecclesiastically (Phil 1:1)
 1. Who the Letter Was From (1:1a–c)
 1. Paul's Firm Signature (Phil 1:1a)
 2. Paul's Fellow Servant (Phil 1:1b)
 3. Paul's Formal Status (Phil 1:1c)
 2. Who the Letter Was For (1:1d–f)
 1. The Philippian Saints (Phil 1:1d)
 2. The Philippian Shepherds (Phil 1:1e)
 3. The Philippian Servants (Phil 1:1f)
 2. Evangelistically (Phil 1:2)
 1. The Greeting (Phil 1:2a)
 2. The Godhead (Phil 1:2b)
 2. Paul Was Thankful for the Philippians (Phil 1:3–8)
 1. For Their Fellowship in the Gospel (Phil 1:3–5)
 1. How He Ministered to Them (Phil 1:3–4)
 1. Remembering Them Personally (Phil 1:3)
 2. Remembering Them Prayerfully (Phil 1:4)
 1. With Persistence (Phil 1:4a)
 2. With Petitions (Phil 1:4b)
 3. With Pleasure (Phil 1:4c)
 2. How They Ministered to Him (Phil 1:5)
 2. For Their Faithfulness in the Gospel (Phil 1:6)
 1. The Work Had Been Commenced in Them (Phil 1:6a)
 2. The Work Would Be Completed in Them (Phil 1:6b)
 3. For Their Fearlessness in the Gospel (Phil 1:7)

They were not afraid of:

 1. His Chains (Phil 1:7a)
 2. His Charge (Phil 1:7b)

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4. For Their Friendship in the Gospel (Phil 1:8)
 1. Love's Outpouring (Phil 1:8a)
 2. Love's Objectives (Phil 1:8b)
2. The Prisoner and His Prayers (Phil 1:9–11)

He wanted the Philippians to be:

 1. Superlative in Their Devotion to Christ (Phil 1:9)
 1. Love Without Limit (Phil 1:9a)
 2. Love Within Limits (Phil 1:9b)
 2. Sound in Their Doctrine of Christ (Phil 1:10a)
 3. Sincere in Their Demonstration of Christ (Phil 1:10b–11)
 1. In Experience (Phil 1:10b)
 2. In Expectation (Phil 1:10c)
 3. In Expression (Phil 1:11)
3. The Prisoner and His Purpose (Phil 1:12–18)
 1. Paul Related How the Gospel Was Spreading (Phil 1:12–18a)
 1. By Means of His Bonds (Phil 1:12–13)
 1. His Chains Were Divinely Planned (Phil 1:12)
 2. His Chains Were Distinctly Productive (Phil 1:13)
 2. By Means of His Brethren (Phil 1:14–18a)
 1. A New Climate (Phil 1:14)
 1. The Number of Those Now Witnessing (Phil 1:14a)
 2. The Nature of Those Now Witnessing (Phil 1:14b)
 2. A Notable Contrast (Phil 1:15–18a)
 1. Paul Discerned the Difference (Phil 1:15)
 2. Paul Discussed the Difference (Phil 1:16–17)
 3. Paul Dismissed the Difference (Phil 1:18a)
 2. Paul Rejoiced That the Gospel Was Spreading (Phil 1:18b)
 4. The Prisoner and His Prospects (Phil 1:19–26)
 1. He Faced Them Prayerfully (Phil 1:19)
 1. The Buoyancy of His Optimism (Phil 1:19a)
 2. The Basis of His Optimism (Phil 1:19b)
 2. He Faced Them Positively (Phil 1:20–21)
 1. His Determination (Phil 1:20)
 2. His Discernment (Phil 1:21)
 1. About This Life (Phil 1:21a)
 2. About That Life (Phil 1:21b)
 3. He Faced Them Preparedly (Phil 1:22–23)

The blessedness of:

 1. A Fruit-bearing Life Down Here (Phil 1:22)
 2. A Far Better Life Up There (Phil 1:23)

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4. He Faced Them Practically (Phil 1:24–26)
 1. His Assessment (Phil 1:24)
 2. His Assurance (Phil 1:25–26)
 1. Looking at the Realities (Phil 1:25a)
 2. Looking at the Reasons (Phil 1:25b–26)
5. The Prisoner and His Pulpit (Phil 1:27–30)

He urged the Philippians to be:

1. Unyielding in the Battle (Phil 1:27a)
2. Undivided in the Battle (Phil 1:27b)
3. Unafraid in the Battle (Phil 1:28–30)
 1. Paul’s Exhortation (Phil 1:28–29)
 1. The Opposition They Faced (Phil 1:28a)
 2. The Opportunity They Faced (Phil 1:28b–29)
 1. Of Being Different (Phil 1:28b)
 2. Of Being Disciples (Phil 1:29)
 2. Paul’s Example (Phil 1:30)
 1. In the Past (Phil 1:30a)
 2. In the Present (Phil 1:30b)

II. Paul’s Tremendous Examples (Phil 2:1–30)

1. Christ: Triumph in Sacrifice (Phil 2:1–18)
 1. Paul’s Approach to the Example of Christ (Phil 2:1–4)
 1. His Distress (Phil 2:1–2a)
 1. The Basis of His Appeal (Phil 2:1)
 1. The Supreme Basis
 2. The Supernatural Basis
 3. The Supporting Basis
 2. The Burden of His Appeal (Phil 2:2a)
 2. Their Discord (Phil 2:2b–4)
 1. The Need for Likemindedness (Phil 2:2b)
 1. In What They Thought
 2. In What They Wrought
 3. In What They Sought
 2. The Need for Lowliness (Phil 2:3)
 1. The Cause of Their Discords (Phil 2:3a)
 1. Contentiousness
 2. Conceit
 2. The Cure for Their Discords (Phil 2:3b)
 1. Humbling Oneself
 2. Honoring the Saints

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3. The Need for Largeness (Phil 2:4)
 1. Heedlessness (Inward)
 2. Helpfulness (Outward)
2. Paul's Appeal to the Example of Christ (Phil 2:5–11)
 1. The Person of Christ (Phil 2:5–7)
 1. As Sovereign: The Messiah (Phil 2:5)
 2. As Son: The Maker (Phil 2:6)
 3. As Servant: The Minister (Phil 2:7a)
 4. As Savior: The Man (Phil 2:7b)
 2. The Passion of Christ (Phil 2:8)
 3. The Position of Christ (Phil 2:9–11)
 1. Exalted (Phil 2:9–10)
 1. Why Every Knee Will Bow (Phil 2:9–10a)
 2. Where Every Knee Will Bow (2:10b–d)
 1. In Heaven (Phil 2:10b)
 2. Down Here (Phil 2:10c)
 3. In Hell (Phil 2:10d)
 2. Extolled (Phil 2:11)
 1. The Universal Confession (Phil 2:11a)
 2. The Universal Consequence (Phil 2:11b)
3. Paul's Application of the Example of Christ (Phil 2:12–18)
 1. Transformation in Our Conduct (Phil 2:12–13)
 1. Full Surrender (Phil 2:12)
 2. Faithful Service (Phil 2:13)
 2. Transformation in Our Character (Phil 2:14–16)
 1. A Christ-exemplifying Temperament (Phil 2:14)
 2. A Christ-exalting Testimony (Phil 2:15–16)
 1. The Truth Visualized (Phil 2:15)
The Christ-Life:
 1. Expressed by Us (Phil 2:15a)
 2. Explained to Us (Phil 2:15b)
 3. Expected of Us (2:15c–e)
 1. What the Lost Expect (Phil 2:15c)
 2. What the Lord Expects (2:15d–e)
 1. The Darkness Described (Phil 2:15d)
 2. The Darkness Dispelled (Phil 2:15e)
 2. The Truth Verbalized (Phil 2:16)
 1. As Part of the New Life (Phil 2:16a)

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2. As Proof of the New Life (Phil 2:16b)
3. Transformation in Our Concepts (Phil 2:17–18)
 1. Paul's Example (Phil 2:17)
 2. Paul's Exclamation (Phil 2:18)
2. Timothy: Triumph in Service (Phil 2:19–24)
 1. An Example of True Service (Phil 2:19–20)
 1. Timothy's Commission (Phil 2:19)
 2. Timothy's Commendation (Phil 2:20)
 2. An Example of Total Service (Phil 2:21)
 1. The Rarity of This Example (Phil 2:21a)
 2. The Rebuke of This Example (Phil 2:21b)
 3. An Example of Tested Service (Phil 2:22–24)
 1. Why Paul Was Sending Timothy (Phil 2:22)
 1. The Philippians Knew Paul's Love for Timothy (Phil 2:22a)
 2. The Philippians Knew Timothy's Loyalty to Paul (Phil 2:22b)
 2. When Paul Was Sending Timothy (Phil 2:23–24)
 1. His Anticipation of Definite News Soon (Phil 2:23)
 2. His Anticipation of Dramatic News Soon (Phil 2:24)
3. Epaphroditus: Triumph in Sickness (Phil 2:25–30)
 1. His Ministry (Phil 2:25)
 1. Sent to the Philippians by Paul (Phil 2:25a)
 1. What Paul Thought of Him
 2. What Paul Wrought with Him
 1. Paul's Fellow Servant
 2. Paul's Fellow Soldier
 2. Sent by the Philippians to Paul (Phil 2:25b)
 1. How He Was Sent
 2. How He Had Served
 2. His Malady (Phil 2:26–27)
 1. The Selflessness of His Suffering (Phil 2:26)
 2. The Seriousness of His Sickness (Phil 2:27)
 3. His Memory (Phil 2:28–30)
 1. What Paul Required of These Believers (Phil 2:28–29)
 1. Rejoice (Phil 2:28)
 2. Receive (Phil 2:29a)
 3. Reward (Phil 2:29b)
 2. What Paul Remembered of This Brother (Phil 2:30)
 1. His Commitment (Phil 2:30a)
 2. His Companionship (Phil 2:30b)

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III Paul's Typical Exhortations (Phil 3:1–4:23)

1. You Cannot Defraud a Man Who Knows the Power of Proper Theology (Phil 3:1–21)
 1. The Christian and His Beliefs (Phil 3:1–3)
 1. The Dimensions of the Christian Life (Phil 3:1)
 1. Singing Fervently (Phil 3:1a)
 2. Standing Firmly (Phil 3:1b)
 2. The Dangers of the Christian Life (Phil 3:2)
 1. The Character of the Deceiver (Phil 3:2a)
 2. The Conduct of the Deceiver (Phil 3:2b)
 3. The Claims of the Deceiver (Phil 3:2c)
 3. The Distinctives of the Christian Life (Phil 3:3)
 1. Exposing the Form (Phil 3:3a)
 2. Expressing the Faith (Phil 3:3b)
 3. Excluding the Flesh (Phil 3:3c)
 2. The Christian and His Behavior (Phil 3:4–14)
 1. Paul's Past Glory (Phil 3:4–6)
 1. What Once He Had (Phil 3:4)
 2. What Once He Hailed (Phil 3:5–6)
 1. His Status as a Pure Jew (3:5a–b)
 1. He Was a Jew by Religion (Phil 3:5a)
 2. He Was a Jew by Race (Phil 3:5b)
 1. The National Claim: Stock of Israel
 2. The Tribal Claim: Tribe of Benjamin
 3. The Parental Claim: Hebrew of Hebrews
 2. His Stature as a Practicing Jew (Phil 3:5c–6)
 1. He Was a Fundamentalist Jew (Phil 3:5c)
 2. He Was a Fanatical Jew (Phil 3:6a)
 3. He Was a Fastidious Jew (Phil 3:6b)
 2. Paul's Present Gains (Phil 3:7–11)
 1. What He Discounted (Phil 3:7–8)

He wrote off all his:

 1. Human Religion (Phil 3:7)
 2. Human Resources (Phil 3:8)
 1. How He Valued What He Found in Christ (Phil 3:8a)
 2. How He Valued What He Forsook for Christ (Phil 3:8b)
 2. What He Desired (Phil 3:9–11)
 1. A Complete Appreciation of Salvation Truth (Phil 3:9)

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1. A Position to Enjoy (Phil 3:9a)
2. A Possession to Enjoy (3:9b–c)
 1. Discarding a False Righteousness (Phil 3:9b)
 2. Discovering a Flawless Righteousness (Phil 3:9c)
2. A Complete Appropriation of Sanctification Truth (Phil 3:10–11)
 1. The Personal Gain (Phil 3:10a)
 2. The Progressive Gain (3:10b–d)
 1. Christ’s Resurrection Power (Phil 3:10b)
 2. Christ’s Rejected Position (Phil 3:10c)
 3. Christ’s Redemptive Passion (Phil 3:10d)
 3. The Prospective Gain (Phil 3:11)
3. Paul’s Projected Goals (Phil 3:12–14)
 1. Assessing His Situation (Phil 3:12)
 1. Realistically (Phil 3:12a)
 2. Resolutely (Phil 3:12b)
 2. Adjusting His Sights (Phil 3:13–14)
 1. A Full Stop (Phil 3:13a)
 2. A Fresh Start (Phil 3:13b–14)
 1. The Plan (Phil 3:13b)
 2. The Prize (Phil 3:14)
3. The Christian and His Brethren (Phil 3:15–19)
 1. Faithful Brethren (Phil 3:15–17)
 1. An Exhortation (Phil 3:15–16)
 1. Our Standing (Phil 3:15a)
 2. Our State (Phil 3:15b)
 3. Our Steps (Phil 3:16)
 2. An Example (Phil 3:17)
 1. Paul’s First Example (Phil 3:17a)
 2. Paul’s Further Examples (Phil 3:17b)
 2. False Brethren (Phil 3:18–19)
 1. Their Number (Phil 3:18)
 1. Paul’s Warning about Them (Phil 3:18a)
 2. Paul’s Weeping about Them (Phil 3:18b)
 2. Their Nature (Phil 3:19)
 1. Their Doom (Phil 3:19a)
 2. Their Desires (3:19b–d)
 1. Their God (Phil 3:19b)

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2. Their Glory (Phil 3:19c)
3. Their Goal (Phil 3:19d)
4. The Christian and His Birthright (Phil 3:20–21)
 1. Our Position (Phil 3:20)
 1. Our Beloved Homeland (Phil 3:20a)
 2. Our Blessed Hope (Phil 3:20b)
 2. Our Prospect (Phil 3:21)
 1. A Glorified Body (Phil 3:21a)
 2. A Guaranteed Belief (Phil 3:21b)
2. You Cannot Defile a Man Who Knows the Power of Positive Thinking (Phil 4:1–9)
 1. Thinking about One’s Spiritual Life (Phil 4:1–5)
 1. Paul’s Positive Thoughts about the Philippians (Phil 4:1–2)
 1. His Pleasure As He Thought How Dear They Were (Phil 4:1)
 2. His Plea As He Thought How Divided They Were (Phil 4:2)
 2. Paul’s Positive Thoughts about His Partners (Phil 4:3–5)
 3. He wanted them to be:
 1. Helpful (Phil 4:3)
 2. Happy (Phil 4:4)
 3. Holy (Phil 4:5)
 2. Thinking about One’s Secular Life (Phil 4:6)
 1. Our Worries (Phil 4:6a)
 2. Our Wants (Phil 4:6b)
 3. Thinking about One’s Secret Life (Phil 4:7–9)
 1. What Paul Shared with the Philippians (Phil 4:7–8)
 1. The Secret of a Guarded Thought Life (Phil 4:7)
 1. The Choices (Phil 4:8a)
 1. Thoughts That Promote Inner Character
 1. Excluding That Which Is False
 2. Extolling That Which Is Fine
 3. Exalting That Which Is Fair
 2. Thoughts That Promote Inner Cleanliness
 1. Excluding That Which Besmirches
 2. Extolling That Which Beautifies
 3. Exalting That Which Builds
 2. The Challenge (Phil 4:8b)
 2. What Paul Showed to the Philippians (Phil 4:9)
 1. By Verbal Example (Phil 4:9a)
 2. By Visual Example (Phil 4:9b)

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3. You Cannot Defeat a Man Who Knows the Power of Perpetual Thanksgiving (Phil 4:10–23)
 1. The Experiences Connected with This Kind of Life (Phil 4:10–13)
 1. Knowing How to Wait (Phil 4:10)

Paul acknowledged:

 1. The Final Coming of the Philippians' Gift (Phil 4:10a)
 2. The Faithful Character of the Philippians' Giving (Phil 4:10b)
 2. Knowing How to Want (Phil 4:11–13)
 1. What Paul Denied (Phil 4:11a)
 2. What Paul Declared (Phil 4:11b–13)
 1. The Serenity of Contentment (Phil 4:11b–12)
 1. The Apprehension of the Lesson (Phil 4:11b)
 2. The Application of the Lesson (Phil 4:12)
 1. No Matter Why (Phil 4:12a)
 2. No Matter Where (Phil 4:12b)
 3. No Matter What (Phil 4:12c)
 2. The Secret of Contentment (Phil 4:13)
 2. The Exercises Connected with This Kind of Life (Phil 4:14–23)
 1. Personal Needs (Phil 4:14–20)
 1. Explanation (Phil 4:14–16)
 1. The Reason for Paul's Past Financial Need (Phil 4:14–15a)
 2. The Relief of Paul's Present Financial Need (Phil 4:15b–16)
 1. The Lacking Concern of the Churches (Phil 4:15b)
 2. The Loving Concern of Their Church (Phil 4:15c–16)
 2. Exhortation (Phil 4:17)
 3. Exultation (Phil 4:18)
 1. Paul's Delight in Their Gift (Phil 4:18a)
 2. Paul's Description of Their Gift (Phil 4:18b)
 4. Expectation (Phil 4:19–20)
 1. Their Temporal Gain (Phil 4:19)
 2. God's Eternal Glory (Phil 4:20)
 2. Parting Notes (Phil 4:21–23)
 1. Greetings (Phil 4:21–22)
 1. From the Apostle (Phil 4:21a)
 2. From the Assembly (Phil 4:21b–22)
 1. Paul's Circle of Friends (Phil 4:21b)

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2. Paul's Circle of Fellowship (Phil 4:22)
 1. The Church at Nero's Rome (Phil 4:22a)
 2. The Christians in Nero's Home (Phil 4:22b)
2. Grace (Phil 4:23)¹

¹ Phillips, J. (2009). *Exploring Ephesians & Philippians: An Expository Commentary* (Php). Kregel Publications; WORDsearch Corp.