

I Can Do All Things through Christ: Phil. 4:8–23 (Philippians Series)

Grace Chapel

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INTRODUCTION

REVIEW

(1:3–8) Thanks to God for the good work begun at Philippi (financial partnership)

(1:9–11) Prayer for the Philippians' love to abound still more in discernment so that they would approve the things that really matter (thru Christ enabling)—that they might be rewarded

(1:12–18) What really mattered about Paul's imprisonment is that it furthered the gospel, because: Roman officials know that he is innocent, but is imprisoned for the gospel & many brethren now boldly proclaim gospel w/ proper motivation w/o fear (even tho some brethren preach it from envy & strife (hoping to afflict Paul), but Paul rejoices when the true gospel is proclaimed (something that matters))

(1:19–26) What really matters to Paul is to magnify Christ in his body (thru life or death),

(1:27–30) What really matters in dealing w/ the Philippians' adversaries is that they stand fast in one spirit (striving together for the gospel faith) & that they not be terrified by them.

(2:1–11) Something that really matters in dealing with other believers is that believers be like-minded, by regarding others above self and that they have the same (gracious) mindset for others as Christ who willingly emptied Himself by taking a servant's form & appeared as man, He humbled Himself & obediently died on a cross, and thus the Father gave Him the supreme name for all creation to bow before Him and to confess Him as Lord

(2:12–16) [In light of Christ obediently humbling Himself] something that really matters is that the Philippians produce their own deliverance (fearing shame at the Bema), because God works in them to accomplish His purposes that they might be His blameless and harmless children who shine as lights in this perverse world by holding onto the life-giving word that Paul (and the Philippians) may rejoice without shame at the Bema

(2:17–24) Paul rejoices with the Philippians at their sacrificial service in faith, altho his life is being poured out as a libation offering in prison & they should join him in rejoicing & plans to come to Philippi shortly after he sends his proven apprentice, Timothy, so that this likeminded one might encourage Paul with a Philippi update

(2:25–27) [Tho Timothy/Paul would come soon] Epaphroditus should return to Philippi, because he knew that the Philippians worried because he almost died, but God healed him

(2:28–30) [In light of Paul rejoicing w/ sorrow] Paul eagerly returned Epaphroditus to increase the Philippians' joy & decrease Paul's sorrow, so they should rejoice & welcome a man such as Epaphroditus, because he risked his life to minister to Paul on behalf of the Philippians

(3:1–11) [In light of Christ, Paul, Timothy & Epaphroditus approving what really matters] Paul again tells the Philippians to rejoice in the Lord & to beware of those distracted by an unnecessary focus on human accomplishments, which Paul counted them as loss (things that do not really matter), so that he would have [experiential] righteousness through faith, that he might know Christ, His resurrection power (in life), participate w/ Christ in suffering, & conform to Christ's death in order that Paul's life might attain the standard of Christ's resurrection

(3:12–4:1) [Though Paul counted all things loss & sought fellowship w/ Christ] he pursues full reward (w/o distraction) & so should we & we are to note others who do so, because many defectors legalistically oppose the gospel, because they have forgotten their heavenly citizenship, in which our Savior will transform us (*before* subduing all things), so we ought to stand fast in the Lord

(4:2–7) Euodia & Syntyche are to be of same mind; Paul's yokefellow is to help these women (who co-laborers prominently w/ Paul in contending for the gospel) to again rejoice in Lord, to again be anxious in nothing, & to again thankfully petition the Lord that the peace of God would protect them

NEW EXPOSITION

(4:8–9) Believers are to focus on what is noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report, virtuous, & praiseworthy AND they are to imitate Paul, so the God of peace will be w/ them

What things are	noble
	just
	pure
	lovely
	of good report
	virtuous
	praiseworthy

Do the things which you learned and received and hear and saw in me

(4:10) Paul rejoices that the Philippians (who have always cared for him) again have opportunity to support him

Lacked opportunity

Cf. 2 Corinthians

(4:11–14) [Paul’s rejoicing over their opportunity to give] does not mean that he is needy, because he has learned contentment in times of plenty and times of need: that he can do all things through Christ’s strengthening, but “Well done, Philippians”

(4:15–17) The Philippians alone have partnered in giving and receiving—even giving twice while Paul was briefly in Thessalonica—but Paul’s focus is not on the gift, but on their rewardability

Shared = *koinoneō*

Not that I seek the gift, but the fruit that abounds to your account

(4:18–20) Paul abounds through what the Philippians sent via Epaphroditus and God (who should be praised) will take care of the Philippians richly

Context of Philippians 4:19

(4:21–23) Paul calls for the Philippians to extend greetings to all, just as those with Paul, including members of Caesar’s household greet the Philippians with grace from Christ

CONCLUSION