

Philippians
March 26, 2008

Overview

1. What recent event(s) prompted the writing of Philippians? (4:14-18; 2:25-230)

What possible future events did Paul write about? (2:19, 24)

What are Paul's circumstances when he wrote the letter? (1:12-13)

Throughout the letter, we see many statements that indicate Paul's frame of mind – list some.

As we read through the letter, what do we see emerge as Paul's "single passion?"

2. In an earlier worksheet, you were assigned to "ask questions of the text." If you had questions for chapter 1, jot those down in the space below. It is important to realize that we may not find answers for some of our questions.

Philippians 1:1-26

3. Paul referred to the "partnership in the gospel" he and the Philippians shared (1:5). How did the Philippians show their participation with Paul?

1:19

2:25

4:14-18

4:3 Paul refers to some as _____, “ who have _____ at my side in the cause of the _____ ”

He also refers to other as my “ _____ whose names are in the book of life.”

4. **1:6** What do you think Paul meant when he said, “He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus?”
- He could have been referring to the specific work described in 4:14-16, which was:
 - In a broader sense, do you think the “completed work” could include the concept of perfection/completion described in I John 3:2?

What does this passage deal with & when will it occur?

5. **:3-8** In the Greek, these verses make up one sentence.....one long, complex sentence. Paul described his attitudes (at least 4) as he prayed for the Philippians. Rewrite this section, using your own words.
6. **:9-11** After he described his prayers in general (vs. 3-8), Paul actually told them of his specific petitions in vs. 9-11. Use your own words and rewrite his prayer.

7. **:12-26** List all the character traits of Paul you can discover in these verses.

8. **:14-18** What words described the actions & attitudes of the preaching brethren who had the right motives (verses 14 – 16)?

Others had different attitudes/motives. What words did Paul use to describe them in verses 15, 17?

What was Paul's attitude toward these trouble-makers?

9. **:19-26** How would Christ be exalted if Paul lived?

How would Christ be exalted if Paul died? (although not specifically stated, what is implied?)

Which would have been "far better" for Paul (life/death)?

Suggestions for your time of meditation and prayer:

Read I John 3:1-3 and Phil. 3:20-21.

Allow these promises to sink in and spend time in prayer, thanking God for His promise of completing His work which will culminate in our becoming like our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

