

## 50-Philippians-01-Transcript-WithTimestamps

00:04

well hello everybody and welcome from

00:07

the Burlington congregation of the

00:10

Church of God international I'm Adrian

00:12

Davis one of the pastor's I co-pastor

00:15

with Murray Palmateer and this is

00:17

normally what we do on a monthly basis

00:19

our Bible studies we're experimenting

00:21

with a weekly format and thanks to

00:24

technology we're hoping that we can

00:26

support brethren in outlying areas and

00:29

other congregations as well and I

00:31

certainly want to give recognition to

00:34

both Jeff and Wes from Tyler who have

00:37

been very very supportive in us being

00:40

able to set this off in broadcast want

00:43

to ask for your patience as we work

00:46

through this technology I might hit a

00:48

few wrong buttons and things could go

00:49

terribly wrong but I'm sure we'll work

00:52

through it together and certainly

00:53

grateful that you're joining us we're

00:55

going to be studying the book of

00:56

Philippians I plan to do that over the

00:59

next four weeks a chapter a week so

01:01

we're going to start with chapter one

01:02

and we want to make this interactive so

01:05

from time to time I'll break probably do

01:08

it halfway stop about halfway through

01:10

I'll check the chat function underneath

01:13

and then we'll just talk and then I'll

01:16

come back and I'll finish the study and

01:17

then we can chat again afterwards and

01:20

you know we can continue chatting maybe

01:22

even when I drop off some of you will

01:24

leave and continue to chat after that

01:26

but I think this will be a great

01:27

opportunity for us to get together in

01:29

the middle of the week and have a bit of

01:31

a spiritual injection with God's Word so

01:34

having said that why don't we begin with

01:37

prayer our Heavenly Father we pause now

01:41

and we come before you lord so grateful

01:45

so grateful to you for all the things

01:48

that you give to us father that enable

01:50

us to take hold of salvation we thank

01:53

you for your word and father we

01:55

certainly thank you for technology that

01:58

we can make use of this technology to

02:00

come together and fellow

02:02

in the middle of the week in between the

02:05

Sabbath's and we just pray God that you

02:08

will bless this that the broadcast will

02:09

go out clearly and that we will all be

02:12

edified and be able to edify one another

02:14

and learn from each other we thank you

02:17

Father and we ask your blessing now as

02:19

we open up your word so rather than I

02:23

want to speak about or study the book of

02:27

Philippians and I call this study a

02:29

model for a healthy congregation because

02:32

as you study the different epistles and

02:34

letters what we see is a lot of problems

02:37

a lot of challenges a lot of doctrinal

02:39

error significant behavioral problems

02:42

and you know fortunately for us the the

02:46

letters that are occasioned by these

02:48

situations help us understand God's Word

02:51

we have access to doctrine we have

02:54

access to guidance that we wouldn't have

02:56

otherwise if these problems did not

02:58

exist in the various congregations but

03:02

the congregation of Philip I stands

03:04

apart because if you read this letter

03:07

from the Apostle Paul to the Brethren

03:10

and Philip I it's just clear that this

03:14

is a congregation that was a joy to him

03:17

it was just he longed for them and they

03:21

support they were very supportive of him

03:23

from the very beginning and and I think

03:27

we can learn from this congregation how

03:30

to be a model congregation and it's

03:32

something that it requires all of us all

03:35

of us together create the congregation's

03:37

that we have and so as we go through

03:40

this i just asked all of us to really

03:42

think about this personally what can we

03:45

personally take from this letter that we

03:48

can apply in our congregation and you'll

03:51

notice when you read the the letters to

03:53

the early churches the Brethren lived

03:56

somewhere they weren't floaters they

03:58

weren't just going from congregation to

04:00

Congregation they were in a congregation

04:02

and they were contributing to that

04:05

congregation to make it healthy if they

04:08

were healthy individuals and so that's

04:09

what we're looking at here in your

04:11

congregation what can you do

04:14

to make it healthier and it's something



04:15

that we will all work on together so

04:18

let's first of all begin in the book of

04:21

Acts to understand how the church at

04:24

Philippi was founded and you'll see here

04:26

in acts 16 beginning in verse 6 it says

04:30

now when they had gone through Phrygia

04:32

and the region of Galatia so this is

04:34

part of Turkey and then were forbidden

04:38

by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in

04:41

Asia so it was their intent to preach

04:44

the word in Asia but the Holy Spirit

04:46

prevented them from doing that and then

04:48

if we look at verse 7 after they came to

04:51

my zia they tried to go to business

04:55

bethania but the Spirit suffered them

04:58

not so again they're being prevented and

05:00

we may find this even an hour work that

05:03

we have certain intentions we try to do

05:05

certain things or we try to work in

05:06

certain places but the Spirit doesn't

05:08

allow us to do that but a door opens up

05:11

somewhere else and that's where the

05:12

spirit wants us to work and we see that

05:14

here in verse beginning at verse 8 and

05:16

they passing by my SIA came down to

05:20

Troas and a vision appeared to Paul in

05:23

the night there stood a man of Macedonia

05:26

and prayed him saying come over into

05:30

Macedonia and help us and after he had

05:34

seen the vision immediately we endeavor

05:37

to go into Macedonia assuredly gathered

05:40

gathering that the Lord had called us

05:44

for to preach the gospel unto them so it

05:48

was clear that the Holy Spirit was

05:49

preventing them from going into Galatian

05:52

for gia and even into my SIA but then it

05:55

was clear and confirmed and validated by

05:58

the vision that a door was opening for

06:00

them to go into Philippi Macedonia or

06:03

Philip on and this actually is the first

06:07

time that the gospel leaves Judea and

06:11

goes into Europe so this is now the

06:14

beginning of really the Gentile churches

06:17

the gospel going into Europe and what I

06:21

want to call out here beginning in verse

06:24

14 is that the church at

06:26

Philippi which was the healthiest

06:29

congregation it was Paul's favorite

06:30

congregation it was founded by a woman

06:33

and look at look at the qualities of

06:35

this woman verse 14 and a certain woman

06:39

named Lydia a seller of purple so this

06:43

is a businesswoman and purple is a

06:46

very was you know today everybody wears

06:47

color even I'm wearing a bright color

06:49

today back in the day color was very

06:52

expensive and only wealthy people could

06:55

afford color certainly purple and so she

06:58

would have a very well-to-do or

07:01

well-heeled clientele she would

07:03

certainly be a very wealthy woman so she

07:05

was a businesswoman a seller of purple

07:07

of the city of Thyatira which worshipped

07:11

God so she worshiped God she was a God

07:14

fear she hurt us whose heart the Lord

07:17

opened that she attended unto the things

07:20

which were spoken of all so she heard

07:23

the gospel she responded to it and she

07:26

obeyed what she heard and when she was

07:28

baptized so she repented she was

07:30

baptized and her household so clearly

07:34

this is a woman with some clout some

07:37

capability she's a businesswoman she has

07:40

a household when she decides that this

07:42

is the way that she's going to go and

07:43

she's baptized she has her household

07:46

baptized with her and I think sometimes

07:49

brethren we can read scriptures and miss

07:53

read scriptures and we end up trying to

07:55

create congregations that are oppressive

07:58

to women and this is not God's will and

08:02

I think we just need to be very

08:04

sensitive to the fact that this woman

08:06

had a very strong role very bad a

08:09

founding member of this congregation and

08:11

God loves women women are an essential

08:16

part of the body and it's just I see the

08:19

misunderstanding of scriptures such as I

08:21

suffer a woman not to speak we can get

08:24

into that in another study and I

08:25

probably will but I would just caution

08:28

you hear that for a congregation to be

08:30

healthy we cannot be oppressing fifty

08:32

percent of the congregation so she was

08:36

baptized with her household and she'd be

08:38

sought us saying

08:39

if you have judged me to be faithful to

08:41

the Lord come into my house and abide

08:45

there and this is you know Paul's a

08:46

Jewish man and then here he is being



08:48

asked to abide with his party with this

08:52

one with this woman in her her household

08:54

would have been unheard of but clearly

08:57

Christianity is not the same now as

08:59

Judaism this is now transcending Judaism

09:02

and it's being opened up to the Gentiles

09:05

and there are certain principles which

09:07

are universal but one does not have to

09:10

give up their culture to be a Christian

09:12

and so Christianity cuts across all

09:14

cultures with fundamental principles

09:16

that are not compromised so here she

09:19

asked him to stay in her house and abide

09:22

there and she constrained us so again a

09:25

very influential woman and this is the

09:27

founding of the church at Philippi so

09:30

let's open up the book now the letter to

09:33

the Philippians and we'll go through

09:35

this beginning in verse 1 it opens this

09:39

letter with who with the author and you

09:42

know back in the day the postman would

09:44

have to unscrew the scroll to see who is

09:48

the letter to and so they would begin

09:50

with the signature whereas today we put

09:54

the signature at the bottom but again we

09:56

don't use Scrolls when most of us are

09:59

our email is electronic so I guess even

10:01

in the sense with email you know who the

10:03

who the letters from before you even

10:05

open it so here you one scroll that you

10:07

see what's from is from Paul and Timothy

10:09

Paul and Timothy the servants the actual

10:13

word is slaves the slaves of Jesus

10:17

Christ to all the saints in Christ Jesus

10:20

which are at Philip I with the bishops

10:23

and the Deacons let's just unpack this a

10:25

little bit if we look at this first of

10:28

all most of the letters that Paul writes

10:31

he emphasizes his Apostleship he'll

10:35

write him he'll say Paul an apostle of

10:38

Jesus Christ and he goes further with

10:41

the Corinthians where he actually writes

10:43

in the letter to the Corinthians I

10:44

magnify my office he was not at all who

10:48

barest or aqua

10:50

heard about his office he magnified it

10:52

so here though writing to the

10:55

Philippians he magnifies the fact that

10:58

he's a slave a slave of Jesus Christ

11:01

that he does not emphasize his

11:03

Apostleship and I think personally my

11:06

opinion on this is he's going to get

11:09

into some things later in the letter

11:12

even in this chapter that have to do

11:14

with the Philippians withstanding

11:18

persecution and he's going to be a model

11:21

for them of how to withstand persecution

11:25

and by declaring himself and Timothy as

11:28

slaves of Christ what they're saying is

11:30

they don't have a will of their own but

11:32

they will do the will of their master

11:35

Jesus Christ and if that means to stand

11:37

tall while you're being beheaded so be

11:40

it to stand tall while you're being

11:42

crucified so be it and and the

11:45

Philippians are facing a bit of a

11:47

struggle some persecution here and I

11:49

think that he's just modeling how to

11:52

respond to his persecution and it's to

11:56

recognize that we have a master whose

11:59

yoke is easy a loving master but he has

12:03

expectations of us to be witnesses

12:05

witnesses to the point of martyrdom of

12:07

this gospel so he opens up by declaring

12:10

that they are slaves do law of Jesus

12:14

Christ the letter now is to all the

12:17

saints in Christ Jesus which are at

12:20

Philip hi so there's a community of

12:23

believers at Philip I and he's writing

12:26

to all of them and notice this with the

12:29

bishops and the deacons and I love this

12:32

because it shows that the community is

12:34

healthy he's not writing to the bishop

12:38

or in the deacons and you know I'm gonna

12:42

tell you so that you will tell them he's

12:45

writing to the whole community including

12:47

the bishops in the deacons and I think

12:49

that that shows us that a healthy

12:51

congregation has healthy leadership but

12:55

it also has healthy members and how the

12:58

members interact with the leaders and

13:00

how the leaders interact with

13:02

members is important if we look at

13:04

Hebrews where it says obey them that

13:07

have the rule over you but the elders

13:10

have the rule over you and submit

13:12

yourselves why for they watch for your

13:15

souls as theta must give account that

13:18

they may do it with joy and not with

13:20

grief that is unprofitable for you so I



13:23

think here we need to see the

13:25

relationship between elders and members

13:28

as that of a husband and a wife where

13:31

the wife joyfully submits to the husband

13:34

because she knows the husband

13:37

wholeheartedly loves her and wants to do

13:40

his best for her to present her a

13:41

glorified bride and so when we have this

13:44

kind of health in our congregations then

13:48

we're going to have a community that is

13:50

functioning well and we're going to have

13:52

leaders that are not lording it over the

13:55

brethren in fact they're being servants

13:57

to the Brethren but the Brethren are

13:59

submitting to them and that's how we

14:00

have the Holy Spirit working well in the

14:03

congregation so that the congregation's

14:05

are a joy and not a burden to the elders

14:08

and then he says here notice it's plural

14:11

with the bishops and the Deacons so just

14:16

as you have multiple deacons in a

14:18

congregation here it's clear that there

14:20

are multiple overseers in philip i and i

14:24

think this model or this notion that of

14:27

hierarchy where there's you know once

14:28

super senior powerful elder and

14:31

everybody else is under under that

14:33

individual that's not what we see here

14:35

in a healthy congregation what we see is

14:37

plurality of leadership plurality of

14:39

eldership with a healthy do not

14:42

supporting them and healthy members

14:44

submitting to them as they serve the

14:46

members grace be unto you and peace so

14:49

grace being the the Grecian Greco

14:52

greeting and Shalom being the Hebrew

14:55

greeting grace and peace create grace be

14:57

unto you and peace from God our Father

14:59

and from the Lord Jesus Christ so

15:03=====Quiz #1

clearly there are two entities here that

15:06

not three is not a Trinity there's God

15:09

the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ and

15:11

so there's a class of beings class of

15:14

God beings

15:15

and within that category of being there

15:18

are two so far one is the father and one

15:22

is the Sun and the Sun is leading many

15:25

other sons all of us into glory so today

15:28

we worship Jesus Christ as our God

15:32

because he's in the Godhead but we too

15:35

will be born into that family and all of

15:38

us with Christ will worship the father

15:40

as the supreme god i thank my god upon

15:44

every remembrance of you so again look

15:47

at the relationship that he has with

15:49

this congregation where as he every time

15:52

he thinks of them he thanks God they're

15:55

just such a wonderful community that

15:57

give him energy and strength and

15:59

encouragement so every time he thinks of

16:01

them he thanks God always in every

16:05

prayer of mine for you all making

16:09

requests with joy and again this is a

16:12

congregation that submits to their

16:13

elders and so that they can oversee them

16:16

with joy and as he prays to the Father

16:18

he just he's just full of joy and

16:21

gratitude for this congregation why for

16:25

your fellowship in the gospel from the

16:27

first day until now so the fellowship is

16:30

their partnership so Paul is out there

16:32

as an evangelist preaching the good news

16:34

telling everybody what is to come facing

16:38

persecution not having enough finances

16:40

to do this work and from the very

16:42

beginning from the moment that Lydia

16:44

helped him found this congregation in

16:47

Philip I her household and the rest of

16:51

the congregation and as the congregation

16:53

grew they were always supportive compare

16:56

that to the Corinthians where it was

16:58

just a complete nightmare it was a real

17:02

struggle and a burden to Paul to work

17:04

with the Corinthian church he eventually

17:06

got them along but it was a real burden

17:08

to him and they were not supported he

17:11

had to go and finance himself so that he

17:14

couldn't be he wouldn't be accused of

17:15

anything but here we see this

17:17

congregation taking a partnership in the

17:20

work of the gospel in the ministry of

17:22

Paul and so their partnership in the

17:24

gospel from the very beginning on

17:27

till now being confident of this very

17:30

thing I'm just absolutely confident

17:33

because of what I see in you I'm just so

17:36

confident but he which has begun a good

17:39

work in you will perform it until the

17:43

day of Christ I've seen this consistency

17:45

in you I've seen this wholeheartedness



17:47

in you I've seen your commitment I have

17:50

no doubt that the work that Christ has

17:52

begun in you he will complete it right

17:55

up to the end beginning in verse 7 even

17:59

at it as it is meet or it's appropriate

18:01

for me to think this of you all it's

18:04

completely appropriate because I have

18:06

you in my heart I just I love you as a

18:10

community and and how we relate to each

18:13

other and everything you've done to

18:14

support me and and how you've been

18:16

obedient to my guidance because I have

18:19

you in my heart in as much as both in my

18:23

bonds and in the defense and

18:27

confirmation of the gospel you are all

18:29

partakers of my grace so the Brethren at

18:33

philip i didn't flounder whether Paul

18:36

was in an honored position or whether he

18:41

was treated as a common criminal in

18:42

prison the Brethren at Philip I knew who

18:45

he was they understood his ministry and

18:48

they were completely committed to

18:50

supporting him and so it's appropriate

18:53

for him to think about the Philippines

18:55

in this way that he's absolutely

18:57

confident of their salvation because he

19:00

just loves them and and loves the way

19:02

that whether he's been bond or free and

19:04

as he's been preparing his defense his

19:07

apology for the gospel they've been

19:09

fully participating in supporting him

19:12

for god is my record how greatly I long

19:17

after you all in the bowels of Jesus

19:20

Christ so from the very depth of Christ

19:24

I long to be with you i can now i'm in

19:27

prison I think he was an in house arrest

19:29

in Rome at this point so he cannot get

19:32

to Philip I but his longing his his

19:34

heart's desire is just to be with these

19:37

brethren again imagine that

19:39

imagine that there's this there's this

19:41

apostle that people hate the accused him

19:44

of being a false apostle they questioned

19:46

his motives and he struggles to bring

19:49

them along into Christ and to birth them

19:51

into the kingdom but this congregation

19:54

is completely supportive of him and as

19:57

he's in these bonds he just wishes that

19:59

he could be free just to be back in this

20:02

community and to experience the love and

20:04

the agape that exists in this community

20:07

so God is his witness how he longs to be

20:11

with these brethren and verse 9 and this

20:15

I pray that your love may abound yet

20:20

more and more so they're already a very

20:23

loving congregation and as he prays for

20:26

them and gives thanks for them and has a

20:27

joy as he thinks about them what he

20:30

prays even more is that their love will

20:33

abound he says I and this is what I pray

20:36

that your love may abound yet more and

20:40

more in knowledge and in all judgment so

20:45

this is very interesting he doesn't say

20:47

that he prays that their knowledge may

20:50

abound in love he prays that their love

20:53

may abound in knowledge so so the key

20:57

here is love and good doctrine the end

21:01

of the commandment is agape and good

21:04

doctrine results in love in fact I just

21:07

want to underline how important our

21:10

behavior is the expression of love with

21:14

respect to doctrine if just as an

21:16

example if you look at first Timothy 5

21:18

verse 8 he says this 2 Timothy if any

21:23

provide not for his own and especially

21:26

for those of his own house he's denied

21:29

the faith and he's worse than an infidel

21:33

I think if we just think about this it

21:36

is quite profound I could have all the

21:38

knowledge I could be an encyclopedia of

21:42

doctrine and what Paul is saying is if

21:45

my behavior doesn't measure up I'm

21:47

actually worse than an infidel

21:49

so doctrine is not academic doctrine is

21:53

behavioral and the whole point of having

21:56

knowledge is to abound in love but love

21:59

must be sensible so if for example we

22:03

have somebody in our congregation that's

22:05

unwilling to work and as a result he's

22:09

destitute it would not be wise for us to

22:13

finance this person so that would be

22:16

silly love as it with their slain self

22:17

is a sloppy a copy we're not into sloppy

22:20

agape he says that rather than sloppy

22:23

agape he says here I pray that your love

22:28

may abound yet more and more in

22:30

knowledge and in all judgment so yes

22:35

there's this outpouring of love and

22:37

concern for others for their welfare but

22:41

there's a wisdom that's associated with



22:43

it you know we don't have a blank check

22:45

and just finance everybody we have to

22:47

think wisely what is the best way to

22:51

help and bless this person and that

22:53

requires judgment that requires wisdom

22:55

and so the congregation collectively

22:57

must grow in agave in knowledge that's

23:01

the the doctrinal part we have to

23:02

understand our doctrines and judgment

23:04

because good doctrine leads to good

23:06

judgment that you may approve the things

23:10

that are excellent you know we can again

23:12

we can have this sloppy agape where

23:14

we're approving everything and there the

23:16

thing the very things that God despises

23:18

if for example somebody who's not

23:20

looking after their household is worse

23:22

than an infidel and we threw sloppy

23:25

agape could be approving this person

23:27

meanwhile from Jesus Christ perspective

23:29

they've denied the faith and so we have

23:32

to be able to approve things that are

23:34

excellent and that comes from judgment

23:36

and from knowledge that you may be

23:38

sincere and without offence until the

23:42

day of Christ and again he's he

23:44

understands that they're in this big

23:47

atoll process and and they're growing to

23:50

be born into the kingdom of God and he's

23:53

absolutely confident that they're going

23:55

to be successful

23:56

but it's important that they concentrate

24:00

on developing agape in knowledge and in

24:03

judgment so that they can approve the

24:05

things that are excellent and you know

24:06

footnote disapprove the things that are

24:09

not excellent get rid of those things d

24:11

leaven their congregation expel the

24:14

leaven out of their congregation so that

24:16

they can be a healthy and a wise

24:19

congregational loving congregation that

24:22

you may be sincere and without offense

24:24

without 11 until the day of Christ and

24:26

so this is a concern that he has that

24:29

there could be an offense that creeps

24:32

into the congregation and so they've got

24:35

to protect themselves from this leaven

24:37

entering the congregation being filled

24:41

being filled as we as we grow in this

24:44

love with knowledge and judgment we're

24:48

to be filled with the fruits of

24:51

righteousness which are by Jesus Christ

24:54

unto the glory and praise of God so

24:57

again this is verse 11 is what good

25:00

doctrine leads to so the more we grow in

25:03

knowledge the more we grow in judgment

25:05

if it's good knowledge if it's though

25:08

the glute than the wisdom that comes

25:10

from above not the sensual wisdom from

25:13

below if it's the wisdom that comes from

25:15

above it results in being filled with

25:18

the fruits of righteousness

25:27

you

25:47

so I could try to put myself first but I

25:51

have gentleness I have self-control and

25:54

that's what good doctrine leads to it

25:58

leads to more of the Holy Spirit which

26:00

means leads to more gentleness so when

26:03

we see brethren at each other's throats

26:06

even ministry involved in that this is

26:09

not from God so we need to be careful

26:13

that we are focusing on our interaction

26:18

with each other the same way the

26:20

gentleman who is not working to provide

26:24

for his family has is worse than an

26:26

infidel we are infidels or as bad as or

26:31

worse if we are attacking the very body

26:33

of Christ Matthew 18 makes that clear

26:36

that it's better for us that a millstone

26:38

be hung around our neck and we be thrown

26:41

into the depths of the sea then that we

26:43

offend one of Christ's little ones so

26:46

verse 11 is really important here that

26:48

were being filled with love we're being

26:51

filled with knowledge and judgment so

26:53

that we can be full of the fruits of

26:56

righteousness which come from Jesus

26:58

Christ why to the glory and praise of

27:01

God the more we can act with the fruits

27:03

of the spirit the more we we bring glory

27:06

and praise to our Father so I think what

27:10

I'll do now is I'll check the chat and

27:12

we'll take a little break here and let's

27:15

hear from you what are your thoughts

27:16

what are your comments what are your

27:18

questions and then we'll finish the rest

27:21

of the book and have a bit more of an

27:25

opportunity to to finish the the the

27:30

chapter chapter one so I'm just going to

27:32

read through this



27:36

okay video is working everything great

27:38

all great from my end

27:47

okay yes so I have to I realized what I

27:50

the mistake that I made with respect to

27:51

the sound so I'm just going to hang on

27:53

here for a little bit now maybe I'll

27:54

have a drink and wait for some questions

27:58

to come in that's great

28:15

so I'm not seeing any questions I guess

28:17

everybody just agrees that we're all in

28:20

one Accord I think that's great I think

28:25

I'll just hang on another minute and

28:27

then what I'll do is I'll finish the

28:30

chapter and maybe there'll be some

28:32

questions at the end but I'll just hang

28:35

on here for a bit

28:46

okay let's uh let's continue then in

28:49

verse 18 he says what then doesn't make

28:56

sure that I finished no it should be

28:58

verse 12 okay so we finished at verse 11

29:03

will continue now in verse 12 but I

29:06

would that you should understand

29:08

brethren that the things which happened

29:12

unto me have fallen out rather unto the

29:17

furtherance of the gospel so here he's

29:20

writing to a congregation that is facing

29:23

persecution he himself is being

29:27

persecuted for the gospel he's in prison

29:29

and he's encouraging them he's

29:33

demonstrating to them how to be a slave

29:35

of Jesus Christ how to not be

29:40

self-willed but to be God willed and so

29:44

he says here I wish that you would

29:46

understand brethren that the things that

29:49

have happened to me that that you know

29:51

at the carnal level at the human level

29:53

sound horrible it's unfair unjust he

29:57

wants them to understand to see beyond

29:59

the human beings and see the bigger

30:02

picture that the things which have

30:05===== Quiz # 2

happened to me have fallen out rather

30:08

unto the furtherance of the gospel this

30:11

this is a good thing and I see it as a

30:13

good thing because I'm a slave of Christ

30:15

and I'm here to do as well and I can see

30:18

his will being carried out so that my

30:21

bonds in Christ are obvious in the whole

30:25

Palace and in all other places so my

30:31

bonds in Christ you know if you suffer

30:34

as a Christian you're blessed if you

30:39

suffer as a busybody or as a murderer

30:41

that's on you but if you suffer as a

30:43

Christian glory to God and here it's

30:47

obvious to everyone in the palace and in

30:50

another in all other places that Paul is

30:52

suffering because of his faith in Christ

30:55

and that is a wonderful

30:57

thing it's furthering the gospel and

30:59

many of the Brethren in fact in the Lord

31:02

are now waxing confident in my bonds

31:06

because they see my confidence because

31:09

they see my conviction because they see

31:13

my fearlessness and my commitment to

31:17

preaching the gospel and how I handle

31:19

persecution I have inspired them and

31:22

they are now convicted of preaching this

31:26

gospel without fear so my brethren in

31:29

Philip I follow me as I follow Christ

31:32

how you see me responding to persecution

31:36

this is how you should respond and and

31:39

that's what's going to further the

31:40

gospel and inspire others to be fearless

31:43

to not be fearful greater is He that is

31:46

in me then he that is in the world and

31:50

many of the Brethren in the Lord are now

31:52

waxing confident in my bombs and are

31:55

much more bold to speak the word without

32:00

fear and brethren these things are

32:03

written for our edification we are going

32:06

into a time that the weather is changing

32:08

it was sunny skies and not a cloud in

32:11

the sky and it was just wonderful to

32:12

feel the nice Sun on your skin and a

32:15

nice cool breeze that's over a very

32:18

harsh winter is now coming and there's

32:21

no turning back our whole democratic way

32:24

of life is collapsing all all the way

32:26

around us we need to speak the gospel to

32:31

speak the truth without fear and our

32:35

agenda is not self preservation our

32:39

agenda has to be to preach the gospel

32:42

and that as we're evaluating

32:44

circumstances we're not saying this is a

32:47

good circumstance because I feel good

32:49

and this is a bad circumstance because I

32:51

feel bad we're saying this is a good

32:54

circumstance because it's furthering the

32:56

gospel and this is not a good

32:58

circumstance because I'm not able to

33:00

further the gospel are our mind is that



33:02

price level and we're thinking like

33:04

Christ and we've got to just get this

33:06

gospel message out there

33:08

fearlessly so so now as a result of

33:12

Paul's example many of the Brethren are

33:15

are bolder now and they're now preaching

33:18

the word without fear now bit of a

33:20

proviso verse 15 some indeed preach

33:24

Christ even of envy and strife so

33:30

they've got the Gospel message they're

33:32

preaching the true gospel but their

33:34

intention is wrong they're doing it out

33:36

of envy and strife but some of goodwill

33:41

the one preach Christ of contention not

33:44

sincerely supposing to add affliction to

33:47

my bonds so so because Paul is is unable

33:51

to move freely they can move freely and

33:54

they think that they're competing with

33:56

all and they're trying to outdo Paul and

33:58

maybe visit Paul's congregations and try

34:01

to outdo him so they want to add

34:04

affliction to his bonds but there's

34:06

another group that is preaching Christ

34:08

out of love knowing that he is set for

34:12

the defense of the gospel so they know

34:14

that he's going to have his day in court

34:15

he's going to have his opportunity to

34:17

defend himself for the sake of the

34:20

gospel but while he's preparing his

34:22

defense they're out helping him sort of

34:25

being an extension of his ministry

34:27

preaching the gospel lot of love and

34:29

sincerity so Paul then says here in

34:33

verse 18 what what then notwithstanding

34:38

every way whether in pretense or in

34:42

truth Christ is preached so again all

34:45

that's on Paul's mind is we've got to

34:47

get the gospel message out there so as

34:50

long as they're preaching the true

34:51

gospel the fact that they're preaching

34:53

it from a wrong intention God will still

34:56

make this you know human is a master of

34:58

making lemonade out of lemons so we've

35:00

got people with wrong intention their

35:02

competitive their carnal there there are

35:04

self-oriented but they are preaching the

35:07

true gospel and then we have people who

35:09

are true and sincere and they're

35:11

preaching the true gospel and Paul is

35:13

looking at this insane great as long as

35:15

Christ is being preached then

35:17

this is this is a good development and I

35:22

therein do rejoice yes and I will

35:25

rejoice this is a wonderful thing it's

35:28

not troubling me at all this is all

35:29

God's handiwork everything is just

35:32

working the Holy Spirit is working and

35:34

Christ is being preached for I know that

35:37

this shall turn to my salvation through

35:40

your prayer so I know that I am fighting

35:43

a good fight I am doing the will of god

35:46

and all of this is going to work out as

35:48

a blessing for me and it's going to turn

35:51

to my salvation with it with your

35:53

prayerful support which I know I can

35:54

depend on I'm praying for you and you're

35:57

praying for me and the supply of the

36:00

spirit of Jesus Christ so he's got two

36:03

things he's got the Brethren praying for

36:05

him and he's got the Holy Spirit that

36:07

Jesus Christ is supplying and that's

36:08

what's giving him this confidence in

36:10

this joy according to my earnest

36:12

expectation and my hope and in nothing I

36:17

shall be ashamed so you know I'm being

36:20

treated like a common criminal I'm being

36:23

my name is being my reputation is being

36:26

dragged through the mud I'm not ashamed

36:28

I stand in the glory of this gospel I

36:31

stand in the glory of Christ and the

36:33

father I'm not ashamed and so my earnest

36:36

expectation according so so um I know

36:39

that this shall turn to my salvation

36:42

through your prayer and supply of the

36:44

spirit of Jesus Christ according to my

36:46

earnest expectation this earnest

36:48

expectation that the Greek is this this

36:50

strong desire you get the you know we

36:53

used to have a dog and before she was

36:55

trained she would really pull on the

36:56

leash she wants to go somewhere and I'm

36:58

pulling her back and she's really

37:00

pulling on the leash because she wants

37:01

to go where she wants to go that's that

37:03

that's the the sense of this phrase that

37:06

Paul is using that he has this earnest

37:09

expectation he's leaning into it his his

37:12

whole he's wholeheartedly striving for

37:15

this end result and and he's not going

37:19

to be ashamed of anything because he's



37:20

got his mind on the end result the same

37:22

way that Christ for the joy that was set

37:24

before him suffered the shame of the

37:27

cross while here Paul is willing to

37:29

for the shame of being treated like a

37:31

criminal because he's focused on the end

37:34

result and and this is the kind of

37:36

thinking that we have to have as we step

37:39

into our future so he says here nothing

37:43

will I be ashamed but that with all

37:46

boldness with all boldness this is I

37:49

just love this this is not somebody

37:52

who's timid this is not somebody who's

37:54

afraid of death or torture he just his

37:58

whole mind is on the end result his home

38:01

mind is on the glory of Jesus Christ and

38:03

the father so that with all boldness as

38:05

always never flinching so now also

38:08

Christ shall be magnified in my body

38:11

whether it be by life or by death so

38:16

here I am I'm on trial why for preaching

38:19

the gospel I'm on trial for believing

38:22

that Jesus Christ is God I'm on trial

38:24

for believing that not only was he

38:26

crucified and killed but that he rose

38:28

from the dead three days and three

38:31

nights later and I'm declaring this

38:33

boldly and now I find myself in prison

38:35

facing the death penalty and you know

38:38

what I rejoice because whether I die I

38:44

will bring glory as a martyr that's the

38:47

in fact that's what I was called to be

38:49

witnesses for Christ so whether I die as

38:53

a martyr or I live and I'm returned to

38:56

the Brethren and return to my work of

38:58

you know if I live and they say make

39:00

sure you dont preach any more about this

39:02

Jesus I sorry we ought to obey God

39:04

rather than men so if I live I'm going

39:06

out and I'm preaching this gospel so so

39:09

whether I die or I live which verse was

39:13

I in now sir so he was saying here in

39:15

verse 20 with boldness whether it be by

39:19

life or by death my whole focus my

39:23

agenda is to glorify Christ and both

39:25

will for to me to live is Christ if I if

39:30

I live the only thing on my mind is

39:32

Christ and preaching christ and bringing

39:35

others to Christ and being a witness for

39:37

Christ and to die

39:39

actually to die is gain because I

39:42

understand the promise that Christ is

39:44

making to me and so I'm good either way

39:46

I'm waiting for the sentence to come

39:48

down I'm going to make my defense

39:49

they're going to read out the sentence I

39:51

might be set free or I might be put to

39:53

death it's all good but if I live in the

39:56

flesh this is the fruit of my labor so

40:03

so if i live in the fresh flash then I'm

40:05

gonna be working this this constantly

40:08

working as an evangelist and apostle for

40:10

Christ's yet what I shall choose I don't

40:15

know I mean it's good to be alive it's

40:17

good to have fruit it's good to do this

40:19

work but you know what if they kill me

40:23

now that's good too because to die is

40:26

gain so I'm really in this kind of

40:28

awkward position and then and this I

40:31

have this piece and as the Brethren

40:33

interact with me they see my calmness

40:36

and they see the piece that the Holy

40:39

Spirit is given me they see the joy that

40:41

I have and they see the confidence and

40:44

conviction that I have in the kingdom of

40:46

God and so as the Brethren interact with

40:48

me it strengthens them it strengthens

40:51

them but you know if I live I get to

40:54

work more and I get to see the fruit of

40:56

my labor but it's okay for me to die as

40:59

well because I understand I understand

41:02

that there's a resurrection and the

41:03

first resurrection is the better

41:05

resurrection so I am in a strait between

41:10

the two I'm really like I could go

41:12

either way and I'm blessed by the way

41:14

having a desire to depart you know this

41:17

is where you know so many people want to

41:19

believe in heaven and oh it's good to go

41:21

to heaven but they don't want to die and

41:22

the minute death comes to them they

41:25

panic and they're doing everything they

41:26

can to stay alive and all kinds of

41:28

surgeries and all kinds of things just

41:30

stay alive well if you really believed

41:32

in heaven you wouldn't be afraid of

41:33

death and here we have somebody that

41:35

really believes in the resurrection and

41:36

it's quite happy to go to the grave

41:39

knowing that it's a temporary sleep and



41:42

he's back with

41:43

so he's kind of stuck between the two

41:46

choices having a desire to die and to be

41:48

with Christ which is far better that's

41:51

like now my salvation is assured

41:53

nevertheless to stay in the flesh is

41:56

more necessary for you so I see the need

42:01

for the things that I Paul understand i

42:05

mean i was taught directly from Christ I

42:07

had visions of things in heaven that

42:09

it's it's unlawful for a man to

42:12

communicate so I know things and as a

42:14

result of the things I know and the

42:16

maturity that I Paul have in the spirit

42:19

I can really strengthen the

42:22

congregations and so I really want to

42:24

get back to Philip I and help you get to

42:27

that next level of maturity and that's

42:29

necessary so so I see the need and why

42:32

God might keep me alive verse 25 and

42:37

having this confidence that God shall

42:40

keep me alive I know that I shall abide

42:43

that I will live and continue with you

42:45

all for your furtherance and joy of

42:49

faith my role is to be helper a helper

42:53

of your joy and so I have this

42:55

conference based on as I read the

42:56

situation and he was actually right that

42:59

they would let him free that because of

43:02

your need for me I will be released so

43:06

that I can help you get to that next

43:08

level of maturity in Christ verse 26

43:14

that you're rejoicing may be more

43:17

abundant so he wants them to grow in

43:19

love more and more wants them to grow

43:21

enjoy more and more so that your

43:24

rejoicing maybe if i'm free i can come

43:26

to you i can serve you in such a way

43:28

that you're rejoicing maybe more

43:30

abundant in jesus christ for me by my

43:34

coming to you again one thing verse 27

43:40

only let your conduct again good

43:43

doctrine leads the Good Conduct this is

43:46

the one this is my one request let your

43:49

conduct be as it becomes the gospel so

43:53

the gospel is not just something you

43:55

learn academically and now you can run

43:57

around saying you know things that other

43:59

people no no the reason we have the

44:02

gospel is to change our behavior to be

44:05

lights in this dark world to be the salt

44:08

of the earth and the more we understand

44:10

the gospel the more it transforms our

44:13

behavior to the glory of God so let your

44:16

this is my one request let your

44:18

conduct be as it becomes the gospel so

44:22

good doctrine leads to good behavior the

44:25

gospel is good doctrine behavioral

44:28

behave appropriately that whether I come

44:30

and see you or else I'm absent there may

44:34

be reasons why I can't get to you right

44:35

away but whether I come if I come I want

44:39

to come and I want to see a healthy

44:40

congregation but if I can't come I want

44:44

to hear about a healthy congregation so

44:47

whether I come and see you or else I'm

44:49

absent I may hear of your affairs that

44:51

you stand fast in one spirit that you're

44:57

not a fractured congregation you're not

45:00

at each other's throats you're a model

45:02

congregation and so whether I'm able to

45:05===== Quiz # 3

come to you or not what I want to hear

45:07

is that your behavior fits the gospel

45:11

and that means that you're united in one

45:14

spirit one spirit of agape love with one

45:18

mind striving together for the faith of

45:23

the gospel and this is what a model

45:25

congregation does they strive together

45:28

and I think sometimes you can that we

45:30

can have congregations where people are

45:32

sincere and they're really making an

45:35

effort in Christ but they're striving

45:38

individually they have a personal

45:40

relationship with god god is my father i

45:44

pray to my father and i just happen to

45:46

be under the same roof with you at the

45:48

moment so you know once a week on

45:50

sabbath

45:51

I share the same roof with you but I'm

45:54

in my walk with God and I'm very

45:55

righteous in my walk that's not a model

45:58

congregation a model congregation is a

46:01

congregation where you are striving

46:03

together you are you're pulling together

46:07

and that's what is that that's what he

46:10

wants to hear that they're pulling

46:12

together in one spirit with with the

46:14

mind of Christ and we'll talk about this

46:16

next week for the faith of the gospel

46:18

that that this faith is something that



46:21

we develop over time together striving

46:24

really leaning in with earnest

46:26

expectation and as a result of that

46:29

notice verse 28 and in nothing terrified

46:34

by your adversaries kind of brings to

46:37

mind Jesus Christ commandment love one

46:40

another a new commandment I give unto

46:43

you love one another and that as you

46:46

love one another all men will know that

46:49

you're my disciples doesn't necessarily

46:52

mean that they'll agree with you agree

46:53

with us doesn't necessarily mean they'll

46:55

join us they may even kill us but they

46:58

will know that we are his disciples when

47:01

they see the love that we have for one

47:04

another and so Paul is saying here in

47:06

verse 27 that as we stand fast in one

47:10

spirit as we strive together with one

47:13

mind as we build the unity of the faith

47:16

and our behavior becomes the gospel as a

47:18

result of that agape working in the

47:21

congregation we will be we will not be

47:25

terrified that perfect love casts out

47:28

fear and so as we learn to love one

47:31

another our fear disappears and we're

47:35

not afraid of death because we know that

47:37

we've passed from death into life how do

47:40

we know because we love the Brethren and

47:42

so it's this love of the Brethren that

47:44

gives us the confidence of our place in

47:47

the kingdom if we don't love the

47:49

Brethren and we say we love God we're

47:53

liars we're lot worse than infidels our

47:56

behavior does not become the gospel and

47:58

so by being in a community

48:01

and learning to love one another and

48:03

support one another and strive together

48:05

we grow in this faith and in this

48:09

knowledge in this judgment and in this

48:12

very deep agape love and this perfect

48:15

love that we're developing in our

48:17

community it casts out fear so now is

48:21

the weather changes and as we face

48:23

stormy weather and as the persecutors

48:26

common they hate the fact that we

48:27

declare Christ they hate that we worship

48:29

Christ they come at us trying to

48:32

terrorize us and we're fearless perfect

48:36

love casts out fear and whether to live

48:38

is Christ and to die is gain and so here

48:43

he says now in verse 28 that in nothing

48:46

doesn't matter what they do is whether

48:48

it's the Roman Empire the Jews today we

48:51

have Christians being slaughtered all

48:54

over the Middle East through Islam it

48:57

does is the same Satan it's the same

48:58

devil but here as a result of learning

49:01

to love one another and this love

49:03

developing in us and casting out fear

49:06

we're not terrified by our adversaries

49:09

which is to them an evident token of

49:14

perdition so as they persecute us and

49:17

they see our fearlessness and they see

49:20

our love for one another this is

49:22

evidence to them that they are doing

49:24

evil that they are doing wrong and that

49:27

they are going to to perish so this

49:30

confidence that we have that we can look

49:32

them in the eye and smile and say

49:34

forgive them Lord they know not what

49:36

they're doing that their conscience is

49:38

going to eat away at them and they know

49:40

they're going to perish because they

49:41

have persecuted the apple of God's eye

49:46

for

49:49

it's evident so which is to them an

49:52

evident token of perdition but to you

49:54

this love this unity this this this

49:58

community of believers that is

50:00

developing in Philippine and in your

50:02

congregation in mind this love that we

50:05

have of the Brethren that's the evident

50:08

token of salvation we know that we have

50:11

passed from death unto life why because

50:13

we love the Brethren and that of God for

50:17

untill you it is given in the behalf of

50:21

Christ not only to believe on him but

50:26

also to suffer for his sake and so this

50:29

again he opens the letter by saying I'm

50:32

a slave of Jesus Christ I do i do my

50:35

masters will his yoke is easy and so

50:38

wherever he turns me i'll go and follow

50:42

me as I follow Christ so as you learn to

50:45

love one another as you as you strive

50:48

together and have behavior that that is

50:52

appropriate to your understanding of the

50:54

gospel this is what's going to prove to

50:57

you that you have obtained salvation

51:00

that by loving the Brethren now you will

51:03

know that you will have entrance into



51:04

the kingdom and by loving the Brethren

51:07

now you will demonstrate to our

51:10

persecutors that they are going to

51:13

perish that they are they are messing

51:15

with God's children there's this kind of

51:18

love where we willingly lay down our

51:20

lives for Christ and for each other this

51:23

is this is not human and so it's give

51:27

this as an actual gift this is the gift

51:30

that we have to suffer for his sake so

51:33

it's a gift to have this faith to

51:36

believe in Christ but it's also a gift

51:40

to suffer for his sake though that's you

51:43

we is calling us to be his witnesses to

51:47

be his martyrs and so to be in the

51:50

position where we actually suffer for

51:53

the name of Christ

51:55

this is an incredible honor and so you

51:58

sing you know you you have this you have

52:00

this gift to believe in Christ but

52:02

that's not it that's not all you also

52:04

have this gift to suffer for his sake

52:08

having the same conflict which you saw

52:11

in me and now here to be in me so this

52:14

is a very thing that I'm going through

52:16

the bonds that I'm facing these are the

52:19

very things that you're facing and this

52:22

is a gift and here he says in Revelation

52:25

12 verse 11 that the Saints overcame the

52:30

Beast by the blood of the Lamb we

52:33

believe in the blood of Christ and so by

52:36

taking the Passover by understanding me

52:40

the power of the blood of Christ that we

52:44

overcome and by the word of our

52:46

testimony and notice this we love not

52:51

our lives unto the death and that's what

52:53

we see in the Apostle Paul he's not

52:55

hanging on to his life he's not putting

52:57

his life over anybody else's he's not

53:00

prioritizing it he's happy to die in

53:02

Christ and so there's this tremendous

53:05

gift that as we grow in love as we grow

53:09

in knowledge as we grow in our belief

53:11

that we strive together as a community

53:15

to build up each other to edify one

53:18

another and as we do that our confidence

53:22

in salvation grows and as we do this

53:26

this is evidence to those who subscribe

53:30

to the beast to those who subscribe to

53:32

Satan's philosophy and doctrine our love

53:36

is evidence to them that they are

53:40

perishing so this is just a wonderful

53:43

wonderful letter and I hope that there's

53:46

a bit of discussion about this now I'll

53:48

just go and check the the chat room if

53:50

not we can finish early but this is

53:52

again just a wonderful wonderful letter

53:55

to a wonderful congregation and there's

53:58

so much that we can learn from this

53:59

letter in terms of how to be a model

54:03

gation and and no one person can make a

54:05

model congregation what makes the model

54:08

congregation is everybody find a

54:11

community of believers where you can

54:13

contribute that this is this is this is

54:16

all about this is all about supporting

54:20

one another this is all about the body

54:22

edifying one another in love and if work

54:26

if we're not planted somewhere if we

54:28

don't have a home congregation we're not

54:31

giving we're taking we're going from

54:33

place to place and taking and what God

54:36

wants is this ability that we have for

54:39

the spirit to flow through us and enable

54:42

us to love the Brethren to edit for

54:44

whatever gifts we have to use those

54:47

gifts to edify the Brethren and

54:49

strengthen the body of Christ so I think

54:53

I'll just go in and check the the chat

54:58

but I wanted to talk about next week so

55:00

next week we're going to go into

55:02

Philippines to which is just a wonderful

55:04

chapter with with phenomenal insight and

55:07

truth there the challenge i have is next

55:11

week I'm traveling on wednesday i'll be

55:14

out of town and i need to be in my home

55:17

studio here in order to broadcast the

55:20

study so if you'll forgive me I did say

55:22

Wednesday nights but next week I'm going

55:25

to do this on thursday night so we'll

55:27

cover philippians 2 on thursday evening

55:30

same time 630 central seven thirty

55:33

eastern and i believe these are being

55:35

recorded so if you if you can't make

55:37

thursday we'll make sure that there's a

55:39

recording and with that I will I will

55:50

you

55:55

okay looks like there's some questions

55:58

here no questions okay I

56:05

okay so there's a question here do I



56:07

have time you said our democratic

56:10

institutions are crumbling around us and

56:13

persecution abounds do you have time to

56:16

elaborate on this read the US elections

56:20

and the possibilities of persecution I

56:23

just have a couple of minutes and all

56:24

else I'll say here is that the u.s.

56:29

really has been the policeman of the

56:34

world and as a result because the u.s.

56:38

is really rooted in judeo-christian

56:41

values the world has benefited from

56:45

judeo-christian values today both

56:48

Britain and the u.s. are stepping back

56:51

from the from their judeo-christian

56:54

values and in fact if anything they're

56:56

embracing these pagan values and as a

57:01

pagan and secular and as a result of

57:04

that a it seems like they're actually

57:07

using these other values that are anti

57:10

Christic to root out Christianity out of

57:14

society and so what we see in the Middle

57:17

East is really a preview of what's

57:20

coming here in fact the sword is already

57:23

on the land what we've done is we've

57:25

gone over there who to take people who

57:27

have an ideology that is extremely

57:30

hostile I I cannot even articulate to

57:34

you the hatred that the folks in the

57:38

Middle East have towards Christianity

57:41

and have had for for over a thousand

57:44

years and we're now importing that

57:47

hatred into North America and into

57:51

Europe and as a result of that this that

57:54

the type of persecution that we're

57:56

seeing in the middle east toward

57:58

Christians we're beginning to see that

58:00

now in the West and this is just a

58:02

preview so so more to come I'm not sure

58:05

which way the US elections will be going

58:08

but you know it really doesn't matter at

58:11

this point

58:12

either way we're seeing a departure from

58:16

judeo-christian values even a despising

58:19

of judeo-christian values and so what I

58:22

what I call the long shadow of

58:24

Constantine we're from the moment

58:26

Constantine made christianity the

58:28

official religion we've been operating

58:30

under that shadow for for you know

58:33

almost 2,000 years 1700 years or so and

58:36

as a result there's been a kind of

58:39

protection around Christianity and

58:41

around Christian values that's lifted

58:43

now and if anything there's a hatred and

58:45

a despising and I think it's going to

58:47

get worse I think Christianity is going

58:49

to be blamed for not being peaceful for

58:52

not cooperating you know can't we all

58:54

just get along well no not if you're

58:56

going to despise Christ so I think that

58:59

I'll just leave it there and that's

59:01

something that perhaps we'll be able to

59:03

talk about and maybe some of the other

59:04

elders will have a more knowledgeable

59:07

insight into the way that the u.s.

59:10

elections are going so with that it is

59:13

now coming up on the a30 the end of the

59:17

study so with that I'll say we'll see

59:20

you next week and thanks very much for

59:22

joining us really appreciate it i hope

59:24

you got something out of the study and

59:25

will will continue to do this weekly and

59:28

hopefully it's a it's a notification for all of you

===== Quiz # 4