

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

JOY FOR EVERY SITUATION

PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 2:19-30

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“FRIENDS AND FOES IN THE FELLOWSHIP” – PART 2

DISCOVERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND HIS JOY IN EVERY SITUATION

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Salvation, Power, Comfort, Growth, Living

Introduction to the Text;

Philippians 2:19-30

When we begin to slow-down and take-stock of what life really consists of, we begin to **wake-up** to those things that are the most important and meaningful.

They are those things that cannot be bought or sold - - things that you and I cannot earn, achieve or gain by the greatest of human efforts...

“We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are **created** equal, that they are endowed by their **Creator** with certain **unalienable Rights**, that among these are **Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.**”

Declaration of Independence
July 4th 1776

It was both **The Declaration of Independence** and **The Declaration of War** - War Against tyranny and subjection.

And in like manner - -
The Declaration of the Gospel is The Declaration of War
Against the tyranny of sin and the subjection of Hell.

John 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

abundantly perissos, per-is-sos'; a superabundance of **quantity** and **quality**. A life beyond life beyond life - -

!!! It's Life not only for Then, It is a Life to be lived now !!!

John 8:34-36 NLT

Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave of sin. 35 A slave is not a permanent member of the family, but a son is part of the family forever. 36 So if the Son sets you free, you are truly **free**."

but it wasn't the revolutionary war that brought us our freedoms.

It wasn't the fact that **56** intellects gathered in Philadelphia. **It wasn't** that **13** Colonies came to an agreement,

It was the fact that for nearly **100** years prior, - the pulpits and preachers of New England thundered with Scripture - - and with their preaching they awakened the dead and with their teaching they **opened-up the way – the concept and idea of individual rights and accountability to God was the only true way to live.** - -

Again...

"We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are **created** equal, that they are endowed by their **Creator** with certain **unalienable Rights**, that among these are **Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.**"

Why do I bring this up in the Book of Philipians?

Philippians 2:19-24

But I trust in the **Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you shortly**, that I also may be **encouraged** when I know your **state**. 20

For I have no one like-minded, who will **sincerely** care for your state. 21

For all **seek** their own, not the things which are of **Christ Jesus**. 22

But you know his **proven character**, that - as a son with his father – so he **served** with me in the gospel. 23 Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me. 24 **But I trust** in the **Lord** that I myself shall also come shortly.

Friends And Foes In The Fellowship

1.) Like-Minded believers will become your friends vs. 19-24

1a.) Friends will be developed in time vs. 19-20

1b.) Friends will be few in number vs. 21

1c.) Friends will be lovingly honest vs. 22-24

Friends And Foes In The Fellowship

2.) Servant-Leaders will become your example vs. 25-30

Philippians 2:25-30

Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; 26 since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. 27 For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow (why didn't Paul just heal the man). 28 Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. 29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem; 30 because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

Servant-Leaders Will Become Your Example

2a.) Servant-Leaders will be in the battle vs. 25-26a

Yet I considered it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; 26 since he was longing for you all,

Name Recognition is not a Virtue in Christianity

and Epaphroditus, who's name means "I belong to Aphrodite/Venus"

(this leads me to say that, tattoos are rarely a good idea)

Without Paul mentioning him - - we never would have known about him in church history. It was Epaphroditus who was the one that delivered this original manuscript of "Philippians" to the church in Philippi.

What an Example Epaphroditus was to all.

my brother,

(belonging to the same family with the same love),

1 John 3:1-3

Behold what manner of love the Father has bestowed on us, that we should be called children of God! Therefore the world does not know us, because it did not know Him. **2** Beloved, **NOW** we are children of God; and it has not yet been revealed what we shall be (be like), but we know that when He is revealed, we **shall be like** Him, for we shall see Him **as He is**. **3** And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Romans 8:14-17

For as **many** (qualifier) as are **led by the Spirit of God**, these (qualifier) are **sons** of God. **15** For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of **adoption** (qualifier) by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." **16** The Spirit Himself bears witness with **our spirit** (qualifier) that we are **children** of God, **17** and if **children**, then **heirs** - - heirs of God and **joint heirs** with Christ, if indeed (qualifier) we **suffer** with Him, that we may also (qualifier) be **glorified** together.

(some of you will not want to hear this – **but the proof of your adoption into God’s family will be confirmed in the suffering**)

fellow worker,

(to be laboring toward the same goal and finish line),

to **co-assist from any direction**, to **co-partner** for the same reasons, to be a **co-example** to everyone watching. to be united or joined or come together.

On May 10, 1869 the Union and Central Pacific Railroads joined their rails at Promontory Point / Summit, Utah

<https://explodinghistorian.files.wordpress.com/2012/05/meetingoftherailsatpromontorypoint.jpg>

Or - On December 1st 1990

http://blog.seangursky.com/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/Channel_Tunnel_geological_profile_1.svg.png

and fellow **soldier,**

(sharing in the same dangers and hardships of trial **by “political” engagements**. Paul had become a political enemy of the state, the state being Caesar.)

2 Timothy 2:1-4

You therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus. 2 And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also. 3 You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. 4 No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

but your messenger
(serving in the same capacity)

That is – The message of the Gospel must be delivered.
by a physical voice, in print, by radio, by transmission...

>>>>>>>>>>>>>>> Through Human Means <<<<<<<<<<<<<<<<

The Gospel is Teleonomic by Nature and Design.

Teleonomic or Teleonomy is the quality or delivery of "Purposefulness, goal-directedness of information" in order to create structures and functions in living organisms by natural laws. The term is derived from two Greek words, *telos* (the end, the purpose) and *nomos* (the law), and means "end-directed-purpose-law".

John 1:1-3, 14

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was in the beginning with God. 3 All things were made through Him (hint), and without Him nothing was made that was made (bigger hint)... :14 And the Word became flesh (mega-hint) and dwelt among us, 9 (radical-hint) and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Colossians 2:9

For in Him dwells all the fullness of the Godhead bodily;

2 Corinthians 5:21

For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

The OT priest would "Transfer" the sins of the people to the lamb.

and the one who ministered to my need;
(being just like Jesus to me)

Servant-Leaders Will Be in the Battle Because

of one grand overriding reason...

Jesus Christ is Their, Our Pattern for Living.

“When God saves a man, God makes the man
a partner in His work.” - **Dwight Pentecost**

“The Word became flesh” and are to do the same.

1 John 4:17

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness in the day of judgment; because as He is, **so are we in this world.**

As Human Beings - We listen to words and those words “take-on” or “become flesh” to us. = Jesus taught the people by **word** and **example**.

Notice that when Jesus was developing His Disciples,

He (1) took them on **amazing journeys**. He (2) showed them **remarkable powers**.
He (3) told them **eternal truths**. And (4) He invited them to
do the impossible in His name.

John 14:12

“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.

Question:

What could we do that could possibly be
greater than the miracles that Jesus performed ?

Answer:

Mark 16:15

And He said to them, “**Go into all the world and preach
the gospel to every creature.**”

Matthew 28:19-20 KJV

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: **20** Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world.
Amen.

The reaching out to the lost and bring them the opportunity of Salvation - that is **The Greater Work** and we are all called upon to unite in that work.

Servant-Leaders Will Become Your Example

2b.) Servant-Leaders will be **leading you through** vs. 26b-28

He was **distressed** because you had heard that he was sick. **27** For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow **(why didn't Paul just heal the man)**. **28** Therefore I sent him (back home to them) **the more eagerly**, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful.

Hebrews 13:7

Remember (think about, talk about) those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct.

Hebrews 13:17

Obey (yield) those who rule over you, and be submissive, **(why?)** for they watch out for your souls, as those who must give account. Let them do so with joy and not with grief, **(don't be high maintenance)** for that would be unprofitable for you.

Obey grk: peitho, pi'-tho; to make a friend of, to trust, to yield, to know that they have your best spiritual development in heart and mind.

Hebrews 13:18

Pray for us; for we are confident that we have a good conscience, in all things desiring to live honorably.

Hebrews 13:24

Greet (kiss) all those who rule over you, and all the saints. Those from Italy greet you.

2c.) Servant-Leaders will be **giving up their lives** vs. 29-30

29 Receive him therefore **in the Lord** with all gladness, and **hold** such men in esteem; **30** (why?) because **for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life**, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.

Because This is What the Real Gospel is Worthy of – Our Total Being

John 15:11-13

“These things I have spoken to you, that My joy may remain in you, and that your joy may be full. **12** This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. **13** Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one’s life (context demands that Jesus is speaking of Himself as our example) for his friends.

What does that look like?

Custom acts of **selflessness**. // Custom acts of **compassion**.

So where do we land this challenge?

We put it down in the daily opportunities that the Lord sends us into.

Remember This – There are Other “Tunnel Diggers”

working toward the same point of contact.

1 Corinthians 3:6-11

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. **7** So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. **8** Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. **9** For we are God’s fellow workers; you are God’s field, you are God’s building. **10** According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it. But let each one take heed how he builds on it. **11** For no other foundation can anyone lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

Are You a **Believer in** or a **Follower of** Jesus Christ ?

James 2:18-20

But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. **19** You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe - - and **tremble!** (goose skin) **20** But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is dead?

“Orthodoxy, or right opinion, is, at best, a very slender part of religion. Though right tempers cannot subsist without right opinions, yet right opinions may subsist without right tempers. There may be a right opinion of God without either love or one right temper toward Him. Satan is a proof of this.”

A.W. TOZER QUOTING JOHN WESLEY

We must make our break from dead declarations.

“Accepting” Jesus Christ or making a momentary “confession” of faith in Jesus Christ is meaningless.

Unless there is a transformed life to reinforce the confession, the confession is silent.
Unless there is a new life,
there remains no proof of having truly accepted Christ at all.

Luke 6:46-48

“But why do you **call** Me ‘Lord, Lord,’ and not **do** the things which I say? **47** Whoever comes to Me, and **hears** My sayings and **does** them, I will show you whom he is like: **48** He is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid the foundation on the rock. And when the flood arose, the stream beat vehemently against that house, and could not shake it, for it was founded on the rock.

COME TO CHRIST TODAY

End of Study

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