

Christ Magnified in Me

Lesson 7: Philippians 1

February 16, 2020

2nd Missionary Journey

- Antioch
- Syria region
- Cilicia region
- Derbe
- Lystra
- Phrygian region
- Galatian region
- Mysia region
- Troas
- Neapolis
- Philippi
- Amphipolis
- Apollonia
- Thessalonica
- Berea
- Athens
- Corinth
- Cenchrea
- Ephesus
- Caesarea
- Antioch



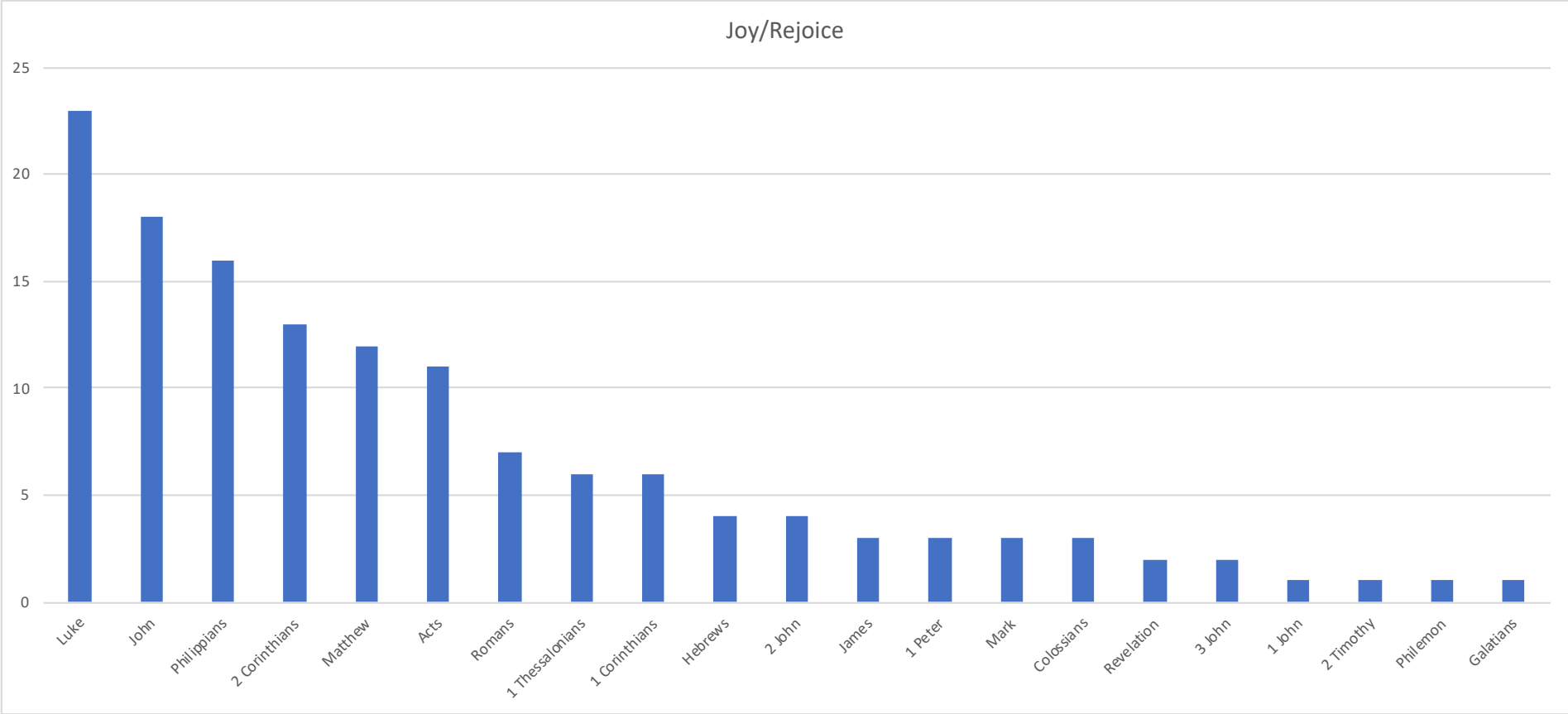
History

- Philippi had a strong Roman influence
- A poor church
- Apostolic authority is not mentioned (like Thessalonians)
- Written from Rome (praetorian guard, Caesar's household, etc.)
- The last church Paul personally visited before arrest in Jerusalem
- Last letter written to a church
- Overseers and deacons

Themes

- The Gospel – 1:5, 1:7, 1:12, 1:16, 1:27 (2x), 2:22, 4:3, 4:15
- (Re)joy(cing) – 1:4, 1:18 (2x), 1:25, 2:2, 2:17 (2x), 2:18 (2x), 2:28, 2:29, 3:1, 4:1, 4:4 (2x), 4:10
- Unity – 1:1, 1:7, 1:23 (2x), 1:27, 2:17, 2:18, 2:22, 2:25 (2x), 3:10, 3:17, 4:2, 4:3 (3x), 4:14, 4:21

Joy



Verbal Outline

- 1:1-11
- 1:12-26 Paul
- 1:27-2:4 Philippians
- 2:5-11 Christ
- 2:12-18 Philippians
- 2:19-30 Timothy and Epaphroditus
- 3:1-3 Philippians
- 3:4-14 Paul
- 3:15-4:1 Philippians
- 4:2-3 Paul
- 4:4-9 Philippians
- 4:10-18 Paul
- 4:19-23

Outline of the Letter

- 1:1-11 Introduction
- 1:12-3:1 Life in Christ
 - 1:12-26 The result of Paul's suffering for the gospel
 - 1:27-2:11 Conduct worthy of the gospel
 - 2:12-30 Working out our salvation
 - 3:1 Rejoice
- 3:2-4:20 Pressing on in Christ
 - 3:2-14 The foundation of life in Christ
 - 3:15-4:9 The attitude of believers
 - 4:10-20 Contentment and provision
- 4:21-23 Closing

Lesson Outline

- 1:1-11
 - 1:1 Introduction
 - 1:2 Author and recipients
 - 1:3-11 Blessing
Prayer
- 1:12-3:1
 - 1:12-26 Life in Christ
 - 1:12-18 The result of Paul's suffering for the gospel
 - 1:19-26 The spread of the gospel
 - 1:27-3:3 Ministry perspective in suffering
 - 1:27-2:4 Conduct worthy of the gospel
 - Characteristics

Introduction

Philippians 1:1-6

¹Paul and Timothy, bond-servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, including the overseers and deacons: ²Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

³I thank my God in **all** my remembrance of you, ⁴**always** offering prayer with joy in my **every** prayer for you **all**, ⁵in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. ⁶*For I am* confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus.

- Author: Paul
 - Extensive use of “I”
 - Timothy is referred to in the third person
- Recipients: the Saints
 - In Christ Jesus
 - In Philippi
- Thanksgiving leads into prayer
- The work that God has started He will complete

Introduction

Philippians 1:7-11

⁷For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me. ⁸For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. ⁹And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; ¹¹having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which *comes* through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

- Prayer for
 - Love
 - Knowledge
 - Discernment
 - Purity
 - Blamelessness
- Purpose of the prayer
 - Approve what is excellent
 - Bring glory to God

The result of Paul's
suffering for the gospel
Philippians 1:12-16

¹²Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel, ¹³so that my **imprisonment** in *the cause of Christ* has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else, ¹⁴and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my **imprisonment**, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear. ¹⁵Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will; ¹⁶the latter *do it* out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel;

- The gospel always advances
- Praetorian guard probably refers to Rome, not Caesarea
- Faithful suffering encourages other believers
- Those preaching Christ
 - Envy, strife, selfish ambition
 - Good will, love, pure motives

The result of Paul's suffering for the gospel Philippians 1:17-20

¹⁷the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment. ¹⁸What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I **rejoice**.

Yes, and I will **rejoice**, ¹⁹for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but *that* with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

- This was a motivation problem, not a doctrine problem
- We should rejoice whenever Christ is accurately proclaimed
- We should have a great desire for Christ to be exalted in our lives

The result of Paul's suffering for the gospel Philippians 1:21-26

²¹For to me, to **live** is Christ and to die is gain. ²²But if *I am* to **live on** in the flesh, this *will* mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose. ²³But I am hard-pressed from both *directions*, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for *that* is very much better; ²⁴yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.

- Paul wanted to remain for
 - Their progress in the faith
 - Their joy in the faith
- We need to do whatever we can to help others grow
- We need to deny what is better for us for what is necessary for others

Conduct worthy of the gospel

Philippians 1:27-30

²⁷Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in **one** spirit, with **one** mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; ²⁸in no way alarmed by *your* opponents—which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that *too*, from God. ²⁹For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, ³⁰experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

- Conduct worthy of the gospel
 - Standing firm in one spirit
 - With one mind striving together for the faith
 - Not being alarmed by our opponents
- God's grace to us
 - Faith
 - Suffering

Summary

- We need to thank God for other believers
- God will finish the work He has started in His saints
- We need to exalt God in our bodies
- To live is Christ and to die is gain
- We have an obligation to the progress of other believers in the faith
- We need to conduct ourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel
- Faith and sufferings have graciously been given to us