

# Philippians

The Joy of Participation, Fellowship and Unity

# The History

Greek and Roman  
Acts 16



*Le monde égéen à l'aube de la 2e Guerre de Macédoine (200 av. J.-C.)*

- Cité
- ★ Bataille majeure (date)
- Royaume de Macédoine
- Etats sous influence macédonienne
- Territoires sous protectorat de Rome
- Royaume de Pergame
- Royaume séleucide
- Etats indépendants
- Possessions lagides

0 50 100 km

# Paul's 1st Journey



# Paul's 2nd Journey



Outbound ———  
Return ———

Scale of Miles  
0 200

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# At Philippi

- Down by the river, Lydia
- The slave girl
- The jailer
- The chief magistrates

# People Mentioned

- Timothy
- Overseers and Deacons
- Epaphroditus
- Euodia, Synthyche, and Clement
- The Praetorian Guard, Caesar's household

# Events

- Imprisonment
- Opposition



# Old Testament Quotes

- Philippians 2:10 - Isaiah 45:23

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- Philippians 4:5 - Psalm 145:18

# About the Letter

- Questions about when and where, not who

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- Questions about when and where, not who
- Questions about fragments

3:1 – “Finally, my  
brethren...”

vs.

4:8 – “Finally, brethren...”

# Unity of Philippians

- Consistent themes
- Consistent use of contrast
- Parallels

# Unity of Philippians

Consistent use of contrast

- To live is Christ, to die is gain
- Whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ
- Humble means vs prosperity
- Being filled vs going hungry
- Having abundance vs suffering need

1:3-11 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always offering prayer with joy in my every prayer for you all, in view of your participation in the gospel from the first day until now. 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. For 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. For God is my witness, how I long for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in real knowledge and all discernment, so that you may approve the things that are excellent, in order to be sincere and blameless until the day of Christ; having been filled with the fruit of righteousness which comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

4:10-20 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at last you have revived your concern for me; indeed, you were concerned before, but you lacked opportunity. Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am. I know how to get along with humble means, and I also know how to live in prosperity; in any and every circumstance I have learned the secret of being filled and going hungry, both of having abundance and suffering need. I can do all things through Him who strengthens me. Nevertheless, you have done well to share with me in my affliction.

You yourselves also know, Philippians, that at the first preaching of the gospel, after I left Macedonia, no church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving but you alone; for even in Thessalonica you sent a gift more than once for my needs. Not that I seek the gift itself, but I seek for the profit which increases to your account. But I have received everything in full and have an abundance; I am amply supplied, having received from Epaphroditus what you have sent, a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well-pleasing to God. And my God will supply all your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus. Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen.



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“joy” 1:4	“I rejoiced” 4:10
“your participation” 1:5	“shared” 4:15
“the gospel” 1:5	“the gospel” 4:15
“from the first day” 1:5	“at the first preaching” 4:15
“He who began” or “the one who began” 1:6	“Him who strengthens” or “the one enabling” 4:13
“to feel this way” or “to think this way” 1:7	“concern for me” or “giving careful thought to what might be done for me” 4:10
“fellow participants” 1:7	“sharing” 4:14
“imprisonment” 1:7	“my affliction” 4:14
“may abound” 1:9	“an abundance” 4:18
“having been filled” 1:11	“have been supplied” and “will supply” 4:18,19
“fruit” 1:11	“profit” (literally “fruit”) 4:17
“Jesus Christ” 1:11	“Christ Jesus” 4:19
“to the glory and praise of God” 1:11	“to our God and Father be the glory” 4:20