

GSM
Philippians
Chapter 1:3-

I. Philippians 1:3-4

A. [**Vs. 3**]- **I thank**- Gr. **eucharisteo**- eu-good; charisteo- to give grace- The root of thanksgiving is the grace of God. God gives us grace and we give back to Him thanksgiving- “good grace”. When we give thanks back to God it is called- good grace. God does not demand thanks from us. We give it voluntarily to God for what He has given to us. When we give thanks it brings glory and accentuates his grace.

1. Giving of thanks accesses further grace
2. Thanksgiving is a release of faith and love
3. Thanksgiving is connected to the ministry of the Holy Spirit- Grace is called good grace when it turns to thanksgiving.
 - a. [**1 Thess. 5:18-19**]- Give thanks...do not quench the Spirit
 - b. [**Eph. 5:18-20**]- Filled with the Spirit...giving thanks
 - c. [**1 Cor. 14:17**]- Pray in an unknown tongue...give thanks well
 - d. [**2 Chron. 5:13-14**]- thanksgiving...temple filled with glory
4. Grace is the seed and thanksgiving is the fruit that contains grace seeds!

B. **Every remembrance**- Lit. “all remembrance” All of Paul's memories are lumped into one single and full good remembrance which leads him to give God thanks.

1. Using our memory is the catalyst for thanksgiving. We need to remember all that God has done for us. It will produce thanksgiving and energize and release our faith.

C. [**Vs. 4**]- **Always in every prayer**

1. Always- without fail
2. Paul added thanksgiving to all his prayers. This is in accordance to his admonition later on in chapter 4 verse 6. Thanksgiving adds faith and love to prayer.
3. prayer/making prayer- Gr. **Deesis**- petition- a definite request that is intensely felt.

D. **With joy**- 7 fold joy in Philippians- God offers us fullness of joy. Each area listed below needs to be present in our lives for fullness of joy.

1. Joy in prayer- 1.4
2. Joy of faith- 1.25
3. Joy in unity- 2.2

4. Joy in suffering for Christ- 2.17

5. Joy in hospitality- 2.29

6. Joy in soul winning- 4.1

7. Joy in giving- 4.10

E. Happiness comes from circumstances; joy is a fruit of the Spirit- [**Gal. 5:22**]

F. [**Romans 15:13**]- Two gauges in your faith car- peace gauge and joy gauge. When they run low you will come to a grinding halt! They are true indicators if you are operating in faith.

G. Paul was a man of prayer. A self dependent person prays little [**unless in public to be seen!**] Prayer is the language of dependence. Prayer is the acknowledgment that you need and desire God.

II. Philippians ch. 1:5-6

A. [**Vs. 5**]- "**Fellowship**"- Gr. *koinonia*- from koinos- what is held in common- ex. village fountain. We have a common fountain as Christians- Christ.

B. Paul mentions fellowship 5 times in the letter. **5 stands for grace**

1. Fellowship in the gospel- 1.5

2. Fellowship in grace- 1.7

3. Fellowship in the Spirit- 2.1

4. Fellowship in the sufferings of Christ- 3.10

5. Fellowship in giving- 4.14

C. "**in the gospel**"- Gr. *euanglion*- good news. If it is not good news it is not the gospel. This word in Greek means, "almost too good to be true news." Grace is good news. Law is bad news. Righteousness is good news. Condemnation is bad news.

D. "**From the first day until now**"- This was from when Lydia opened up her heart and got saved to Paul having just received their gift in prison. The Philippians did not wait to see if Paul would be successful or not in his ministry before they became his partner. These are the people you can trust.

E. [**Vs. 6**]- "**Being confident**"- Gr. *peitho*- perfect tense- having come to a settled and firm persuasion.

F. "**Began**"- Gr. *enarchomai*- "to begin" / "**Perform**"- Gr. *epiteleo*- "to make a complete finish"- These were technical terms for beginning and ending a sacrifice. Christ is the author and finisher of our faith. Our faith life is a sweet aroma to God. Our beginning faith in Christ through to the finishing of our faith is a sweet smelling sacrifice to God. It sends forth the fragrance of Christ Jesus.

G. "**Good work**"- Gr. *agathos ergos*- This is a divine good work. His initial good work in us was the new birth and his finishing of the work will be the rapture of the church. Both these are works of His grace and not our based upon our works. This reveals all the work we do in between these two points come from His work in us and our faith in Him.

H. "**Until the day of Christ**"- In referring to the individual believer this will occur at the rapture of the church and the redemption of our body. [Romans 8:23] In referring to the church of God as a whole this good work continues and will continue until the rapture. Saints have come and saints have gone (died) but the church is still here and God is still doing His good work in her. What God started at Pentecost He continues to do now in the church today and it will carry on until the rapture of the church.