

# Philippians

## Chapter 1

1 Paul and Timothy servants of Christ Jesus to all the holy ones in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi with the bishops and deacons<sup>1</sup>.

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.<sup>2</sup>

3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.<sup>3</sup>

4 Continually in all my prays for all of you making my prayer with joy,<sup>4</sup>

5 over your fellowship in the gospel from the first until now.<sup>5</sup>

6 Being confident that He who began a good work in<sup>6</sup> you will finish it till the day of Jesus Christ<sup>7 8</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> Verse stats 20 words 100% homology By/NA27; 1 word out of sequence.

<sup>2</sup> 12 words 100% homology By/NA27

<sup>3</sup> 9 words 100% homology By/NA27

<sup>4</sup> 13 words 100% homology By/ NA27

<sup>5</sup> 13 words/ NA 14 (+ths); thus 93% homology

<sup>6</sup> The message to the Philippians is a classic example of Paul speaking to the company of the church. This is not just a message to a single individual but also what God expects to do in the midst of a people who will learn to walk in the love and fellowship of the community and body of Christ. What God expected of the Philippian church He expects of us today. If we are willing to participate in Gods plan then we will see His results.

God who began a good work among you will complete it (1:6)

Your love is to overflow more and more (1:9)

Through making the right choices you will be pure and blameless (1:10)

Continue to progress in joy and faith (1:25)

They were to be standing firm in one Spirit striving side by side with one mind (1:27)

They were to be of the same mind, having the same love, being in total agreement and of one mind (2:2)

They were not to be selfish in anyway but regard others better than themselves (2:3)

They were to be more concerned about the interest of others rather than their own interest (2:4)

They were to let the mind of a servant be their conscious motivation just as it was for Christ Jesus (2:6-8)

Through obedience they were to work out their salvation with fear and trembling knowing that it was God who was at work within them (2:12-13)

They were do to all things without murmuring or complaining so that they could be blameless and innocent children of God shining as stars in the world (2:14)

They were to rejoice in the Lord (3:1)

They were to beware of those ministers who would come to turn them from true worship (3:2)

They were those who worshipped in the Spirit and had no confidence in the flesh (3:3)

They were to think just as Paul thought (3:15)

They were to hold fast that which they had attained in Christ (3:17)

There citizenship was in heaven (3:20)

They were to be aware of the fact that God was going to transform their bodies to be like his glorious body (3:21)

They were to rejoice in the Lord always (4:4)

Their gentleness was to be made known to all (4:5)

They were not to worry about anything but to make their request to God who would supply all their need according to his riches in glory(4:6,19)

As a result the peace that passes understanding would rule their hearts and minds (4:7)

They were to think only on the things that were honorable, righteous, pure, pleasing, commendable, of excellence and of praise (4:8)

<sup>7</sup> The Holy Spirit is devoted to bringing all of us into the fullness of the maturity of the measure of the ministry of Jesus Christ - unto a fully matured believer (Ephesians 4:13). The subject here is not salvation,

## 9 And this I pray that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and discernment<sup>9</sup>

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or a process of being saved, but of the maturity of each believer: to come into all of the fullness of the glory of God provided for us through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus (Ephesians 3:18-19). Yet, more than anything else, the completion of the work of Christ is our resurrection from the dead unto life immortal (Philippians 3:11; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17). It is God who works in us both to will and to work for His good pleasure (Philippians 2:13). Therefore, we can be confident along with Paul that God is faithful to complete His good work in us if we continue to look to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). If we will simply respond to the invitation that has been given us to come and dwell in His glory, then we will bear all of the fruits of His nature and the blessings of fellowship with Him (John 15:1-5, John 15:16; Romans 6:22; Philippians 1:11). There is no limit to the provision of God and to the riches of Christ Jesus, which He will supply to us to meet our every need both spiritually, physically, and financially (Philippians 4:19; 3 John 1:2; 2 Corinthians 9:8).

We cannot expect that we are going to have the results that God wants to produce for us unless we are willing to have a right relationship with Him. The Macedonians at Philippi are an example to us of a right relationship; who after having received the gospel, became partners for the advancement of the gospel (2 Corinthians 8:1-5; Philippians 1:5,7; Philippians 4:15). Now we do not have to look to ourselves for ability to do these things, for God has empowered us with everything that we need to respond to him as obedient children (Romans 6:16-18, Romans 6:22; Romans 15:17-18; 1 Peter 1:2,14; 2 Corinthians 2:9; 2 Corinthians 10:5). With this grace that God has given we must be willing to be faithful to the call of God, and be responsible to place the kingdom of God and the righteousness of God above all other things in our life (Matthew 6:33). We should not do these things because we have to, but because we are motivated by the love of God that has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5). Our hearts and motives have been united with Father in His righteous cause - and nothing should be more important to us than those things that please Him (Philippians 3:8; John 14:15; John 15:10; 1 John 5:2; 2 John 1:6).

<sup>8</sup> Those who do not trust in themselves, but in Christ, do not have to look to themselves for a solution to their needs - but instead to Calvary! Christ Jesus is at work in us. The Holy Spirit is at work in us. We are being divinely assisted and strengthened by Almighty God to be everything that we have been created in Christ Jesus to be, but we must look to the Lord instead of ourselves for the help and the change that we need (Ephesians 3:20; Romans 8:26-28). Look to the cross where you began: where all this life was freely supplied. It is there that you will find all the forgiveness and provision of life still flowing freely to all who will believe. We must believe that God loves us at all times and never despises our weakness, but is devoted to our perfection (1 John 4:16-18; Romans 5:6,10). If we put our trust in Him we will never be ashamed, but will always and at all times find help in time of need.

When reprov'd don't feel condemn'd, but empowered with insight and expectation for those things you can be confident the Holy Spirit will provide! Too many times when we are challenged or corrected (either by the ministry of the Spirit through a Pastor, or by life's circumstances), we allow ourselves to feel like a failure. We may even run from such correction because we are so hard on ourselves. But when we will take every instruction, correction, and reproof and run to Christ Jesus with it, and look to the author and finisher of our faith - we will find grace and help (Hebrews 12:2). Christ Jesus, the Holy Spirit, and the Father are devoted to our perfection, protection, and provision; all we have to do is to put our trust in God and not in ourselves. We will find a continual blessing of provision for all of our needs if we refuse to trust in the arm of flesh, but instead make God the sole object of our trust (Jeremiah 17:5-7). If we will faithfully hold to the reality that everything we have in Christ right now was freely given to us by the Spirit and not by our own ability, we will recognize that every need and shortcoming in our life will also be corrected and changed - not by the flesh (human ability) but by the same Spirit of the Lord, who will continually supply His divine power, enabling us to grow and mature if we will just look to Him alone (Galatians 3:3). Never feel like a failure again, but instead be a recipient of continual growth: as one being instructed in all the ways of God and established in His righteousness.

<sup>9</sup> God has equipped us by Christ Jesus to be pure and blameless unto the day of the Christ (1 Corinthians 1:8; Philippians 2:15; 1 Thessalonians 5:23; 2 Peter 3:14). But in order for us to remain spotless we must be willing to allow God's love to influence every decision that we make. It is essential that the love of God govern our every action otherwise our own self-interest and ambition will take over and our judgment will be tainted. God wants us to test things out and make sure that it is the product of His love. Through the

10 For you to distinguish the things that differ that you may be pure and blameless unto the day of Christ<sup>10</sup>.

11 Being filled with the fruits<sup>11</sup> of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ to the glory and praise of God.

16- Some proclaim Christ out of strife not purity expecting to add affliction to my bonds.<sup>12</sup>

21 For to me to live<sup>13</sup> is Christ and to die is gain

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governorship of His word and the love of the Spirit that has been given to us He has equipped us with the ability to know the difference between good and evil (Hebrews 5:14; Psalms 119:11; 1 Thessalonians 2:13). If we allow the love of God to preside over us then we will be able to make the proper distinction of things. We must be willing to keep ourselves in the love of God and realize that without it we will not have proper discernment in the decisions that we make (Jude 21; 1 John 4:16. If the fruits of righteousness are going to be manifested in our lives then we must be willing to abide in His love (John 15:10). When we come to realize that love works no evil then we can understand how that as we remain in this love we will remain pure and blameless (Romans 13:10). Let the love of God move you and inspire you in every decision that you make.

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<sup>11</sup> We have been given the firstfruits of the Spirit and have been clothed with Christ so that we might bring forth fruits unto righteousness (Romans 8:23; Galatians 3:27). There are many people who know how to quote the scripture, you shall know them by their fruits in somewhat of a judgmental manner but fewer seem to realize that God expects us to walk in obedience to Him and yield fruits of holiness in our behavior (Romans 6:22). The fruit of the Spirit that is in all goodness and truth manifest that we have been born of God and that we are Sons of God (Ephesians 5:9; Galatians 5:22-23; Romans 8:14). God wants to train us to yield to the Spirit and walk in the divine nature so that we might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God (Colossians 1:10). God is dedicated to leading and instructing us so that our lives will yield the peaceable fruits of righteousness and shine as the stars of heaven in the midst of a crooked and perverse world (Hebrews 12:11; Philippians 2:15).

<sup>12</sup> There is only one significant difference in the two major text-types in Philippians. I compared as many text types as I have available and also, the two eclectic text (NA27 and Robinson/Pierpont Byzantine Textform 2005). If one compares the NA27 to the Byzantine there is only about 1% difference. There are roughly 1500 words total with only about 15 words that are uniquely classified as variant (I am uncertain if they would all qualify as a variant unit). Also, of the 104 verses only 1 verse is a unique variant and that is verse 16, which then by possible haplography includes verse 17. One can see an opportunity for parablepsis. It can be argued that the scribes was looking at a Byzantine reading and his eye skipped from the "oi men ex" of verse 16 to the "oi de ex" of verse 17 (of the Byzantine text type) thus resulting in the most striking difference between the text types for the Epistle to the Philippians. (Now thinking back on all of those lectures from Dr. David Noel Freedman on the difference between homeoarcton and homieoteuleton I think that this may argue for a hybrid of the two.) However, if we assume that the scribe was using the Alexandrian and the hyplography resulted in the Byzantine reading then we have to argue for the same haplography. Keeping in mind that both the Alexandrian text and the Byzantine text use all the same words in verses 16-17 but organize them in a slightly different way. The more difficult thing to explain is how then does the remaining portion of verse 16 become inserted into verse 17 of the Alexandrian word order or the Byzantine word order in a perfectly inverted fashion?

When we size up the only truly significant reading between the Byzantine reading and the Alexandrian reading in the Epistle to the Philippians there is no way to say that the difference is theologically motivated in that the message is not really changed: "some out of strife the Christ preach not purity expecting affliction to add to my bonds. some but out of love knowing that for the defense of the gospel I am set." (Byzantine); "some out of love knowing that for the defense of the gospel I am set. some but out of strife the Christ preach not purity expecting affliction to add to my bonds (Alexandrian). Therefore, one would have to conclude that this difference is the result of some sort of hyplography.

<sup>13</sup> God has revealed just how definitely our lives have been united with Jesus, for the heart of the gospel message is "Christ in us" (Colossians 1:27; 3:4). In fact, Paul demanded that the Corinthian church make a

## Chapter 2

2- Fulfill my joy by thinking the same, having the same love, being one in Spirit, being of one mind.<sup>14</sup>

3- Do nothing out of selfish ambition or desire for praise but in humility regarding others better than yourself<sup>15</sup>.

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proof that Christ Jesus was in them, or else they would be discovered to be religious reprobates (2 Corinthians 13:5).

The Eternal Word came to reveal the Father, and to make known to all mankind the glory and the splendor of living in the realms of the Kingdom of God. He opened the door to all mankind, and continues to call whosoever will to come in and live in this heavenly and eternal realm. It is the grand prize of all prizes! We have been given the opportunity to be one with God, and live in the glory of His abundant life. If you were to stop and think of there being the slightest chance that God has truly given us such an opportunity, surely you would drop everything and start running for Him. This is the greatest opportunity ever made available to mankind: the privilege of being filled with the life of Christ and being co-inheritors with Him!

When the territory of Oklahoma was being opened up in 1889, the government gave people the opportunity to own land for free. The land rush of Oklahoma brought people from all over the world - who lined up and ran to stake their claim. Many people gave their lives for the opportunity to have a piece of real estate. One author wrote, "The last barrier of savagery in the United States was broken down. Moved by the same impulse, each driver lashed his horses furiously; each rider dug his spurs into his willing steed, and each man on foot caught his breath hard and darted forward." God has given us an opportunity that far outweighs the one presented to those hungry for the privilege and security of owning their own land: oneness with Christ Jesus. This is truly the grand prize of life, the opportunity to live the life of Christ!

Anyone who is willing to respond to the call of God will find a place in the realms of God's glory - through accepting the identity of Christ. God has given us an inheritance that goes far beyond anything that we could have ever thought or asked: the right to be sons and daughters of the Almighty God! This life is the life of God the Messiah, of Jesus the Eternal Word. He has come to live on the inside of us with His presence and His power. He does not live as a mere memory in the hearts of those who believe, but in glory and authority by His Spirit, which He has given unto us (1 John 3:24). We have born the image of the earthly man Adam, and have been cursed with his disobedience (Romans 5:12-21). Now it is time for us to bear the image of the heavenly man, Christ Jesus! Christ Jesus died for our sins, and rose again that we may have His life reproduced in us (John 12:24; Galatians 2:20). If we desire to walk in the faith that has been given to us by the gospel, then we must accept the testimony that Father has given to us of His Son. It is time to begin to declare what God has produced in us: Christ Jesus - our glory, our treasure, the divine nature, the new creation, the new man, and the power that is at work in us!

<sup>14</sup> There was nothing more important to Paul than for the church to be perfectly knitted together in love (Colossians 2:2; Ephesians 4:16). It was through this love and fellowship in the Spirit that those in the church would walk in this perfect unity described by Paul in this verse. When we consider that the Spirit was poured out upon a church that was gathered together with one purpose and submitted to the one calling then we may understand that this is the environment and state of the heart in which the Holy Spirit is empowered to lead the meeting (Acts 2:1; 1:14; 4:24,32; 5:12; Romans 15:6; Philippians 1:27). Furthermore, if the church is going to function as one body then being submitted to the same Spirit that gives the body life and movement is absolutely essential (James 2:26; 1 Corinthians 10:17; 12:13, 20; Ephesians 4:4). If we are going to have such a submission among those who are in the church then God's people are going to have to humble themselves and walk in lowliness of mind instead of being so opinionated. For those who have trouble humbling themselves and following the instructions of those who are in charge as well as being in submission to those they feel less qualified than themselves they should consider Jesus. Jesus was equal to God (being God) and yet He became a servant and humbled Himself to a death on a cross to purchase the church with his own blood (Acts 20:28). The cry of Paul's heart is for everyone to do likewise so that the glorious church can be manifested to a lost a dying world (1 Corinthians 14:25; 1:10; Ephesians 5:27).

<sup>15</sup> Paul focuses our attention on the specific nature and disposition that we most definitely should possess if we have received the Spirit of God. He draws our attention to the fact that this is indeed the very nature of

4- Let each person be more concerned about the interest of others rather than ones own interest.

5- Let this mind which was in Christ Jesus be also in you.

6- Who being in the form of God did not use His equality with God to gain reward.

7- But made Himself of no reputation, took the form of a servant and was made in the likeness of men<sup>16</sup>.

14 Do all things without complaining and arguing,

15 so that you may be without blemish and pure, God's perfect children in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation among whom you shine as lights in the world<sup>17</sup>.

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God. If God did not have this nature of love, compassion, mercy and humility then we would never have been redeemed and would have been lost forever.

Jesus did not regard His own position and comforts when He humbled himself to take on the form of man to redeem us. He regarded our situation and well being with a level of importance worth all of the abuse and pain that He endured to ransom our lives from sin and darkness. If God so loved us then we ought to also love one another. And even more, if we are those who have been born of God then His unselfish nature must be allowed to govern our decision making process (1 Peter 5:5-6; Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:12; Galatians 5:26).

<sup>16</sup> There can be no greater example of the humility that we should have in our relationships than that given to us by Jesus. Furthermore, when we consider our motives for doing things we must make sure that we are using the gifts and special anointings that we have been given to gain a reward or some personal advantage. When we consider Jesus we behold an example that is a must for us to follow if we are going to please the Father and to do the right things with what He has given us. We must humble ourselves under the mighty care and provision of the Father and entrust our well being and defense to Him. Jesus was abused but He never retaliated with a threat of Gods judgment and wrath upon the abusers but interceded for their forgiveness. We have all been called to come and learn of His servitude and humility if we desire to find the rest and favor of the Father (Matthew 11:29).

<sup>17</sup> What a simple assignment God has given us in order to remain blameless and innocent. All we must do is to maintain a good attitude about the things that we encounter and not allow ourselves to become involved in strife. When we consider the fact that all holiness and righteousness is summed up in walking in love we discover that God has simplified for us all that He desires us to do (John 13:34-35; 15:12,17; Ephesians 5:2; Romans 13:8,10; Galatians 5:14). As we are willing to keep ourselves in the love of God we remain in a place that is yielded to the supply of the divine ability that God has given so that we can do all that He has requested (Jude 21). What the Lord has required of us is that we discover a wonderful and joyful fellowship of goodness and trust between ourselves and God (Jude 21; 1 John 4:12, 16; Ephesians 3:19; 4:15).

Of course we all know how upset we all become when things do not go our way. The fact is however that we volunteered to allow the Lord Jesus to have His way in our lives. Our job assignment in the relationship was to trust Him and to give thanks in all things (1 Thessalonians 5:18). If we will walk in love, rejoice in the Lord always and give thanks in all things we will not only stand out as the children of God but we will walk in that place of being well pleasing in His sight. Our heavenly Father has purposed that we be like a city set upon a hill radiating with the light and life of His glory, a beacon of His love that will cause all men to recognize that we are His children (Philippians 3:1; 4:4; Matthew 5:14; Ephesians 5:8-13).

We may be certain of one thing the Lord cannot tolerate murmuring and complaining. He had to listen to so much of it from the nation of Israel that He finally said enough! It is over! Their murmurings and complaining all boiled down to their lack of love and trust for Him (1 Corinthians 10:10; Hebrews 3:8-19; Jude 16; Exodus 15:24; 16:2,7-12; Numbers 14:27-29, 36; 17:5,10; Deuteronomy 1:27). If you want to fellowship with the Lord and have His blessings in your life then you are going to have to keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking guile. If you have a habit of blaming other people or grumbling and complaining about the way things go you need to recognize it for the evil that it is and reach out to God for wisdom and strength to bring it to an end. Now the Lord strengthen your hearts in holiness so that you may be without blemish before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all His saints (1 Thessalonians 3:13).

## Chapter 3

3- For we are the circumcision<sup>18</sup> that worship by the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh<sup>19</sup>.

## Chapter 4

4- Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice<sup>20</sup>!

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<sup>18</sup> Paul made it very clear to the community of Jews that the true circumcision, were those who had been born of the Spirit. The Old Testament revealed that circumcision was to be of the heart or the inner man and not just an outward ritual (Deuteronomy 30:6). Therefore Paul's message to everyone was that true circumcision was in the heart by the Spirit and not the outward ritual proscribed by the law (Romans 2:29). The circumcision of the heart was the circumcision of Christ that cuts away the body of the sins of the flesh (Colossians 2:11). In the Old Testament uncircumcision represented uncleanness and defilement (Ezekiel 44:7). When our hearts are circumcised by the Spirit of God they are united with the purified by the Spirit and united with the Lord Jesus Christ and the Father ( ).

<sup>19</sup> Every person has a choice you can either have an outward ritual and trust in your own abilities or you can be changed on the inside and learn to live by the Spirit of God (John 3:5; Romans 8:1,4; Galatians 5:16; 5:25). The Greek word that is translated worship in this verse has as its primary meaning to serve. The only way that we can serve God is by the Spirit of God. Today we must learn that without Jesus we can do nothing therefore He calls us to come and dwell in union with Him (John 15:5). We must be willing to dwell in Him and to allow the glory and strength of His presence to give us the ability to do all that He has asked of us. We must recognize that worship is far more than singing songs in church. Worship is interacting with God and the only way that we can interact with God is by the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 2:18; John 3:5; 4:24; 16:13; 1 Corinthians 2:12; Galatians 4:6). It is through this interaction with God that we find ourselves dwelling in His presence and receiving those things that only the Spirit of God can teach us (John 16:13; 1 Corinthians 2:9-10). In the Old Testament the only way that men could interact with God was to bring an offering that represented their lives (Genesis 4:4; 22:3-5; Leviticus 1:1-3; 1 Kings 18:24). They would lay their lives down upon an altar of sacrifice according to the commandment of the Lord and God would respond to them. Today we must recognize that the only access that we have to the Father is by the Spirit of God (Ephesians 2:18; 2 Corinthians 3:17; John 3:5; Romans 8:14). If we are unwilling to lay down our lives then we actually run interference with the Spirit of God. To be led by the Spirit is an act of choice. In every decision and action we either choose our own ability or we look to the Spirit of God for divine help. Paul reveals here in this verse that those who are born of God serve God not by the flesh or human ability but by the Spirit of God. God has called us to present our lives as a living sacrifice Holy and acceptable to Him (Romans 12:1). As we do we lay aside our own human ability and interest and recognizing that we can do nothing of ourselves we reach out to God for help and yield ourselves to the Holy Spirit. We accept with the full assurance of faith that He is ready to give us the strength of the Lord and the power of His might at the moment that we make our request. When we do the Holy Spirit begins to fill us with the divine ability and inspiration to enter into that realm of glory where we interact with and receive from the Almighty (Ephesians 3:16; Philippians 4:13; Colossians 1:11). We are the circumcision who have put off the impurity of heart and have confidence that the Spirit of God will give us the ability to walk in union with the Father and with our Savior Jesus Christ.

<sup>20</sup> The biggest joy thief is sin and condemnation. The Lord has all of the mercy and compassion that we could ever need so if you find yourself failing to walk in the obedience which God demands He will forgive you. However sin is deadly because it makes you that much more vulnerable to the influences of the Satanic. The powers of darkness will affect your emotions steal your joy and create all forms of slander against the truth. What a terrible mess to have to work through. Things can be challenging enough without giving Satan a key to the door of your heart! Simple obedience to the word of God is not that difficult and the reward and benefits are great, both now and through eternity. One of the many glorious things about being obedient to the word of God is fullness of joy. So many Christians live their lives in sadness and sorrow while all the time the life of Christ has been granted to them. The abundant life that is in Christ Jesus is far

8 Finally brethren whatever is true whatever is honorable whatever is upright whatever is pure whatever is pleasing whatever is of good report if there be any excellence if there be anything worthy of praise think on these things<sup>21</sup>.

13- I have all might through the strengthening power of Christ in me<sup>22</sup>.

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better than any other kind of life. The peace that is provided, the joyfulness and gladness of heart these things are unparalleled by anything else in this world.

The abundant life that is Christ Jesus is most obviously expressed in our us through the love of God and the joy of our salvation. The evidence of salvation is that God has given us beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. The expression of joyfulness and gladness in our service and worship is of supreme importance to God. In fact, He refuses to accept the offering that we bring without this sound of joy and praise. To appear before Him with a sad countenance is a reproach and is an act that brings disdain to the Father. The kingdom of God is righteousness, joy and peace in the Holy Ghost. God has given us an endless supply of these things. A well-spring springing up and a river flowing out. Please honor the Lord and give yourself to the joy that He continually supplies. It is time to get off the emotional rollercoaster! Do not appear before Him with a sad countenance rather rejoice in the Lord always! Rejoice in the Lord and especially when you enter into His courts and come into His presence. Let your whole being rejoice in the God of your salvation and do not yield yourself to the sorrow of this world.

<sup>21</sup> If you want to have the right results then you are going to have to think the right thoughts. As a man thinks in his heart so is he therefore, we need to think according to the things that God has said (Luke 6:45; Proverbs 23:7; Psalms 17:3; 19:14; Romans 10:10). We need to think after the manner of the word of God, which has been written in our hearts (2 Corinthians 3:3; Hebrews 8:10). The word used here for think is 'logitzomai,' referring to the logic that we use to predict the future. It may be translated 'calculate' or simply to 'think.' This Greek word is translated elsewhere as accredited or the credit that one has in their account (Romans 4:8-10, 22-23; 8:36; Galatians 3:6). Based on the credit that you have in your account you can predict whether or not you have any money to spend to obtain those things that you desire. God who is devoted to our success and who cannot lie has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in the heavenlies and is providing for us according to His riches in glory.

If we are willing to meditate on the word of God we will find ourselves prospering and being successful (Joshua 1:8; Psalms 1:2-3). If we would consider all the plans that God has for us and all the absolute success that he has promised us and choose to think on these things then the worry, stress, doubt and fear will begin to come to an end. When we consider what will happen in our tomorrows it should be predicted by the truth of God's word, the integrity of His promise, the uprightness of the situation the purity of His purpose, the good report that He has given, the excellence that He has called us to, the success and conduct worthy of praise.

<sup>22</sup> When we know that we are strengthened by the strengthening power of Christ, nothing is beyond our capabilities in Him! Samson was strengthened by the Lord and was given supernatural strength to carry out God's will for his life. We are strengthened by the Lord to walk in a sonship anointing (Galatians 4:6-7; Romans 8:16-17). We are strengthened to comprehend all of the fullness of God, and to know the love that passes knowledge (Ephesians 3:16-19). All we have to do is believe what God has said and yield to the Holy Spirit, and we will be strengthened with all might by His glorious power. The

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Holy Spirit has come to supply us with everything that we need, so that we can walk worthy of the Lord and be fruitful in every good work (Colossians 1:10-11).

If we will learn to have no self-sufficiency, then we can rely upon the sufficiency supplied to us by Christ - who has all divine power (John 15:5; 2 Corinthians 3:5). There are too many who hear the good word of God and yet fail to allow these promises of God to cause them to think differently. To be renewed in the spirit of our mind is to be governed by a new thought process: one that is certain that God will supply and enable us to live a glorious, powerful, and overcoming life filled with the ability that God gives (Ephesians 4:23-24; Romans 12:1-2). Too many continue to rely upon themselves, while God demands that we learn to rely on Him and make Him the sole object of our trust (Jeremiah 17:7). We must not fail to fully put our trust in the One who has loved us, redeemed us, and given us all things freely. The Holy Spirit has come to teach us all of these things; be taught by God today! God has come to supply all that we need to fulfill His purposes in our life. We have been given the strength of the Lord and the power of His might; and there is no power too great, no obstacle too high for us to overcome - and fulfill His will. We have been given the victory: the overcoming power that conquers the world (1 John 5:4-5).