

The Book of Philippians
Chapter 2
“Let This Mind Be In You”

In a cartoon by Mary Chambers, there is a Young boy writing to his grandmother thanking her for the gift she sent him for Christmas.

“Dear Grandma, Thank you for the tape recorder you sent for Christmas.

I have already made quite a bit of money selling Dad tapes that I've made around the house on Sunday mornings.

I am saving up to buy a video camera. Thank you again. Love, Eldon “

-- Cartoonist Mary Chambers in Leadership, Vol. 9, no. 2.

As we begin chapter 2 of Philippians, we are encouraged to **“Be The Example”** in our conversation, our attitudes, and **our life in general**.

It is a fact that just because we have given our lives to Jesus and have been forgiven by Him, that **we are still going to have many difficulties with our behavior**.

Many times we look up to another person as the kind of example that we want to be.

Most often, when we study anyone long enough, we will be disappointed as we begin to discover that they have their own set of shortcomings

This is why Paul encourages us to get our eyes off of ourselves and other human beings and instead look to Jesus as the example of what we should be like.

Paul begins chapter 2 of Philippians by asking “A Rhetorical Question”...

1 Therefore is there is any consolation in Christ, if (there is) any comfort of love, if (there is) any fellowship of the Spirit, if (there is) any affection and mercy,
2 fulfill my joy by **being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind**.

Do you know what a rhetorical question is?

- **It is when you ask a question that you already know the answer to**, or the answer is very obvious.

As Paul begins chapter 2 of Philippians he asks 5 questions of the person who claims that they know and Love Jesus.

Is there any Consolation or comfort in Jesus?

Is there comfort in His love?

Is there Fellowship with the Holy Spirit?

Have you received Affection and Mercy from Jesus?

In other words, you evaluate what you received from Jesus,

1. how important and valuable are what Jesus has given you?
2. If you find that what Jesus has done is valuable to you, has it effected your life?
 - **If you find** that you have received an abundance of Jesus Love.
 - **If you find** that you have received immense comfort from Him because He died for you and took away all of your guilt and shame.
 - **If you know** that Jesus is living inside of you now,
 - **And that you understand** his affection and Mercy towards you...

Then, Paul says here, “Have at least, that same love towards other believers.”

There is just something about us as believers in Jesus that we seem to be harder on each other that we are on the rest of the world.

Do you know what I mean?

1. **Why is it that we can forgive people in the world, overlook their sin because we are trying to win them to Jesus, but we cannot forgive or overlook someone’s sin or shortcomings who loves Jesus and is trying to also follow Him?**
2. **Why do only Christians “Shoot our wounded”?**
3. **When another believer is struggling,** why do we condemn them and pass judgment on them?
4. **Why don’t we spend as much time** working toward unity as we do working to cause division between us?

Here is Ephesians 2, Paul encourages us to...

2 fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Philippians 2:3

3 Let nothing be done through **selfish ambition** or **conceit**, but in **lowliness** of mind let each **esteem others better than himself**.

4 Let each of you look out not **only for his own interests**, but also for the interests of others.

- 1 **Is there any consolation and comfort in Knowing Jesus?**
- 2 **Then don’t do anything because of selfish ambition or conceit.**
- 3 **In lowliness of mind, esteem other people as better than yourself.**
- 4 **Look out for others interest, even as you look out for your own interests.**

There should be an awareness of our own ugliness and worthlessness, if it was not for what Jesus has done for us.

May I say to you, if we do not see ourselves as less than everyone else, and totally unworthy of all that Jesus has done for us, then we do not have a proper view of ourselves.

Jesus told a story about Mary Magdalene to one of the religious leaders of Israel.

Mary had been a prostitute for many years, was most likely possessed by demonic spirits, and led a life of emptiness and worthlessness.

That is, until Jesus touched her, **“Oh but a religious man should never touch a woman like Mary Magdalene”**, the leaders in Israel told Jesus...

Why not?

Jesus did touch Mary, and He forgave her of all of her sins, and set her free. Her response was to fall at Jesus feet and wash his dirty feet with her tears, and dry them with her hair.

The religious that watched were appalled that Jesus would allow such a thing as this to happen.

And Jesus answered and said to them...

“The one that knows that they are forgiven much, will love much, but the one who really doesn’t understand how much Jesus has forgiven of them, will only love Him a little...”

Your love and desire to totally fall at Jesus feet and give Him your life this morning, will be in direct proportion to how much you understand how lost and vile you were before Jesus forgave you, How much you understand what Jesus has done for you, and how much you know Jesus the person.

Luke 7:37-40

37 And behold, a woman in the city who was a sinner, when she knew that Jesus sat at the table in the Pharisee's house, brought an alabaster flask of fragrant oil,

38 and **stood at His feet behind Him weeping; and she began to wash His feet with her tears, and wiped them with the hair of her head; and she kissed His feet and anointed them with the fragrant oil.**

39 Now when the Pharisee who had invited Him saw this, he spoke to himself, saying, "This man, if He were a prophet, would know who and what manner of woman this is who is touching Him, for she is a sinner."

40 And Jesus answered and said to him, "Simon, I have something to say to you."

41 There was a certain creditor who had two debtors. One owed five hundred denarii, and the other fifty.

42 And when they had nothing with which to repay, he freely forgave them both. **Tell Me, therefore, which of them will love him more?"**

43 Simon answered and said, **"I suppose the one whom he forgave more."** And He said to him, "You have rightly judged." NKJV

1. **If we are still judging and condemning people** then we don't have a proper view of ourselves.
2. **Yes, we are to Judge**, other wise how could we ever confront anything that is wrong.
3. **But we many times take judgment to far**, we also then become jury and executioner, we also condemn people by our judgments of them.
4. **We condemn people, when Jesus said that He did not come for the purpose of condemning**, why is that?, because every one of us were under His condemnation already.
5. **We were all guilty of our sins**, and there was nothing that we could do to ever remove our guilt until Jesus came.
6. **But when Jesus came**, he not only removed our sin, he took away all of the condemnation and guilt?
7. **We do not have the right** to put final judgment on anyone.

Also, when someone who loves us and comes to us to talk about a struggle we are having in our life, we say something like, "**Your judging me!**"

1. **Instead of humbly receiving their encouragement** to turn from this sin, and then falling at Jesus feet for mercy.
2. **There is just way too much "Spiritual Pride"** today among those who claim to believe in Jesus.

This is the area that Paul is talking about this morning, being humble, and broken before the Lord and before other people in our lives.

Someone comes to you to talk to you about your situation, instead of getting mad and accusing them of Judging you, why not just admit, "**I am sure you are right, please pray for me that I will do what is right before the Lord...**"

And when we approach someone about something, why can we not do it in brokenness and humility ourselves?

One day, a pastor had heard of someone in his church who had left his wife to live with another woman.

The man was living with this woman in a garage that belonged to someone else.

As the pastor arrived at the place where they were living, and saw the conditions of the man and woman's life, he was just overcome with emotion and broke down and began to cry.

He got up and told the man and woman that he was sorry, but he had to leave, he was just so overwhelmed with emotion.

2 weeks later, the pastor received a phone call from the man who told him that he went home to his wife and children.

He told the pastor that **his tears had broken his heart**, he realized all that he had done and he wanted to turn from it.

The pastor didn't say a word about the mans sin! In humility, he was just so broken himself over seeing the situation, that he broke down and cried.

That was what ministered to the man the most, and caused him to see himself clearly...

Philippians 2:5

5 **Let this mind be in you** which was also in Christ Jesus,
6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,
7 but **made Himself** of no reputation, **taking the form** of a bondservant, and **coming in** the likeness of men.

8 And **being found** in appearance as a man, **He humbled Himself** and **became obedient** to the point of death, even the death of the cross.

Did you ever ask yourself what is was like for Jesus as the God of the Universe, to humble Himself for us, give up his power and position as God?

1. **Jesus is called by John "The Logos"**, The living Word of God. Jesus spoke and the universe was formed, fully functional. Yet, when He was born in Bethlehem in a stable, He could not even speak, He had to learn everything from the beginning.
2. **Hebrews said that Jesus had to "Learned Obedience through the things that He suffered..."** And yet before Jesus left heaven, there was not anything that He did not know!
3. **Isaiah 42:1-7 says** that Jesus received His power, wisdom and knowledge by the anointing of the Holy Spirit, not from his former knowledge of power that He had as the God of eternity. He began as a baby who didn't know anything, just like us, He had to learn everything!
4. **What must have that been like** for One who is so awesome in beauty, power and wisdom, to leave all that behind, to become just a man?
5. **As a human being**, the bible says that Jesus was tempted in all of the same ways that we are tempted, and yet He never Himself sinned once.

It is important to understand:

- A. **If Jesus had sinned, even once**, He would not ever be elevated to his full power as God again, after the sin.
 - B. **If Jesus had sinned**, He would not ever have been able to save us, and we would have been lost forever.
6. **Jesus overcame every temptation and every sin, as a man, not as God. Jesus never claimed that his power to overcome temptation and sin was because He was God** It was the anointing of the Holy Spirit that Jesus depended upon to do all of the work that he accomplished for us.

Notice:

- A. **Verse 5**, Jesus **"Consecrated Himself to the Father..."**
- B. **Verse 6**, Jesus **"Laid aside his form as God..."**

- C. Verse 7, Jesus “**Made himself of no reputation...**”
- D. Verse 7, Jesus “**Took the form of a servant...**”
- E. Verse 7, Jesus was “**Made like men...**”
- F. Verse 8, Jesus “**Humbled Himself...**”
- G. Verse 8, Jesus “**Became obedient to the point of death...**”

All of these require effort, an act, a conscious decision by Jesus to lay these powers and rights.

- **Jesus had to consecrate**, or dedicated Himself to the Father for us.
- **Jesus had to willingly lay aside** his form as God to take the form of man.
- **Jesus had to make himself** a man of no reputation.
- **He had to consciously decide** to become a servant.
- **He had to allow himself** to be made a man.
- **He willingly** humbled Himself for us.
- **He “BECAME”** obedient, even to death.

And believers, many times we fight, split churches, refuse to come back to church just because something happens that hurts us, disappoints us, or lets us down...

We need the kind of mind that Jesus had that was fully committed to this whole venture. I am so glad that Jesus did not have the kind of mind that we have, that gives up or gets mad or discouraged so easy.

Hebrews 12:2-4

2 **looking unto Jesus**, the author and finisher of our faith, who **for the joy** that was set before Him endured the cross, **despising the shame**, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

3 For consider Him who **endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged** in your souls.

4 **You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.** NKJV

Notice that Jesus “**Despised the shame**” of what He went through, I believe that the bible shows us that **Jesus knew what He was going to have to do**, and that being made sin for us, **terrified Him!**

Matthew 26:39

9 He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, **if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me;** nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." NKJV

Jesus had never known or experience sin before, in all of eternity! Think about that.

Jesus had never been separated from the Father for all of eternity, but for you, He was separated, because when your sin was poured into Jesus, He was forsaken by the Father...how horrible that must have been for Jesus!

It was because of the Joy that Jesus knew would be yours after you had experienced His forgiveness and love, that he did it all.

Jesus was looking into your eyes when he was on that Cross, it was you that was His joy that caused Him to suffer so much.

Do you understand this? Then, Paul says, “Let the same kind mind, attitude, be in you also”, humble yourself, and take the form of a servant, for Jesus sake!

Philippians 2:9

9 Therefore God also has highly exalted Him **and given Him the name which is above every name,**

10 that **at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,** of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

11 and that **every tongue should confess** that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Because Jesus overcame every obstacle, overcame every temptation, and sin, because he accomplished perfectly, the payment for our sins, Now He has been exalted back to that place that He had before He came to earth for us.

John 17:5

5 And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, **with the glory which I had with You before the world was.** NKJV

This is where many of the religious cults of the last days **make their biggest mistake,** who they claim Jesus was before, who he became, and who He is now.

In every case, a Cult will always lower Jesus from who the Word of God said He is. They claim that Jesus is “A created being”. Some say He became “a god”, because of His obedience. Some claim “**He is the brother of Lucifer or Michael.**” **Some even say that Jesus is not God at all.**

In every case, they teach and believe in a “Different Jesus” than the Jesus of the Bible.

1. **The Word of God says** that Jesus is the “**Eternal God**”, with no beginning and no end, He is not a created being, he is self existent, and has always existed as God.
2. **The Word of God says** that Jesus is the One that spoke all things into existence, they were created by Him, for Him, and are held together by Him.

Colossians 1:16-17

16 For **by Jesus all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth,** visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. **All things were created through Him and for Him.**

17 And **He is before all things, and in Him all things consist** NKJV

One of the amazing things about Jesus as the creator of “all things”, is **HOW HE CREATED THEM.**

In Genesis chapter one, where it Says

Genesis 1:1

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. NLT

1. **The word “created”**, as used in the first verse of chapter I, is the Hebrew word **“Bara”**. It is only used three times in the entire Bible
2. **“Bara”** is that capacity of **”Creating something out of nothing.”** It is a capacity that is entirely God's. Man does not have the capacity to make anything from nothing.
3. **There are two other Hebrew words**, **“Asah”** and **“Yasar”**, that are translated, **“Made”** or **“Formed”**. They are the Hebrew words used for the “Assembling of materials that already exist.
4. **We might say that someone Created this podium**, but actually what they did was assemble from already existing materials, this podium.
5. **Creating out of non-existing materials** is something only God has the power to do, it called in the Hebrew, **“Bara”**.

One day, a man decided that he wanted to challenge the Lord on a building contest. He told the Lord that he had been watching God for awhile and he felt as a scientist, that he now had the knowledge to create like God creates.

The Lord accepted the challenge and instructed the man to begin.

He went out into a field and began to gather up some dirt in which he was going to make his new creation.

“Oh No you don’t The Lord told the scientist, You get your own Dirt!”

Jesus Humbled Himself and became a Man, but He did not cease to be God, He simply **“Emptied Himself”** of most of His power and authority. Jesus was fully man and fully God at the same time. Jesus did not cease to be God when He came to earth as a man.

John 18:3-6

3 Then Judas, having received a detachment of troops, and officers from the chief priests and Pharisees, came there with lanterns, torches, and weapons.

4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?"

5 They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, **“I am He.”** And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them.

6 Then--**when He said to them, “I am He,”--they drew back and fell to the ground.** NKJV

Why did the detachment of troops fall on the ground, notice that they fell when Jesus used the “I Am”, title for the eternal God, the **“Eigo eimi”**.

Isaiah, in predicting the coming of Jesus, said of Him:

Isaiah 9:6

6 For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, **Mighty God**, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. NKJV

Throughout the scripture, the Lord declares in His own Word that **there is only One God**:

Deuteronomy 4:39

39 Therefore know this day, and consider it in your heart, that the LORD Himself is God in heaven above and on the earth beneath; **there is no other**.

1 Kings 8:60

60 that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God; **there is no other**.

Isaiah 44:8

8 Do not fear, nor be afraid; Have I not told you from that time, and declared it? You are My witnesses. **Is there a God besides Me? Indeed there is no other Rock; I know not one.**

Isaiah 45:5

5 I am the LORD, and there is no other; **There is no God besides Me**

Isaiah 45:18

I am the LORD, and **there is no other**.

Isaiah 45:21

I, the LORD? And **there is no other God besides Me**

Isaiah 45:22

22 "Look to Me, and be saved, All you ends of the earth! For **I am God, and there is no other**.

Isaiah 46:9

For I am God, and there is no other; I am God, and there is none like Me,

The name of God; "Elohim" in the bible, in the Hebrew language, is a word that means: "A Compound Unity", more than One.

Genesis 1:1

1 In the beginning **God** (Hebrew: Elohim) created the heavens and the earth. NKJV

The Hebrew word "Elohim" is actually Plural.

If a Hebrew person were intending to say "One", singular in regard to God, He would say "El".

The Hebrew name "El Shadai", means "The Lord almighty",

In many places in the bible, it is "El" singular, but in the very first 3 verses of the Word of God, in the book of Genesis, there is hint for us that God is "A Compound Unity" of three.

The word “**Elohim**”, means a compound unity of more than one person in the God head, but not three different Gods, one God with 3 distinct persons.

Our next book, Colossians, says that Jesus is the person of the Godhead that created the heavens and the earth. So in verse 1 of Genesis we see Jesus the Son...carrying out the Creation...

Genesis 1:1-3

1 In the beginning God (Elohim) created the heavens and the earth.

Verse 2, we see God the Holy Spirit:

2 The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And **the Spirit of God** was hovering over the face of the waters.

Then we see Jesus again in verse 3:

3 Then God said, "**Let there be light**"; and there was light. NKJV

There are many places in the bible where you can see the trinity demonstrated, even though you will never see the term “**Trinity**”. This word came later to describe the trinity of the God Head.

In your next bible study, try to find the word “**Grandfather**” in the bible. You won't find it in the original language or the KJV, because it is not there. Are there Grandfathers in the bible?, of course. But if you search for the word “**Grandfather**”, you won't find it either in the bible.

So you see, the word Trinity does not have to be there for there to be a trinity of God!

Matthew 3:16-17

16 ...**Jesus** (The Son) came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw **the Spirit of God** (The Holy Spirit) descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

17 And suddenly **a voice came from heaven**, (The Father) saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." NKJV

Ephesians 2:10

10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth,

11 and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

There are two places where every knee will bow at the name of Jesus:

1. **At the time of the Millennium**, when Jesus rules with a rod of iron for 1,000 years upon the earth. It will be a forced rule. Those who love goodness and righteousness, it will be a wonderful time. For those who love evil, it will be a terrible time, as Jesus rules, because a person will not be able to rebel against Jesus Authority. For this reason, during the tribulation, every person will bow their knee to Jesus authority.
2. **At the “Great White Throne Judgment”**, where all those who died not believing in Jesus sacrifice for their sins are resurrected from the dead. Here, they will stand before Jesus to be judged for their own works. There will be no disputing Jesus authority at the

Great White Throne Judgment, his ruling will be fair, righteous, and beyond dispute or appeal.

The name of Jesus is quite special and unique from the viewpoint of the Word of God:

1. **The Name “Jesus”** is His Greek Name.
2. **His Hebrew Name** is “Joshua”.
3. **In Hebrew it is pronounced “Yohowshuwa”**.
4. **In Hebrew Jesus name means: “The Lord is our Salvation”**
5. **Remember that Gabriel told Joseph and Mary** to call His name “Jesus”, for He shall save His people from their sins.”

So, “Every knee is going to bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus is Lord...”

Those of us that are here this morning that know Jesus great love, have absolutely no problem with that command. In fact, we look forward to the time when we will bow before Him as He comes to rule this earth in righteousness.

We willingly bow our knee to Him, and we willingly confess the fact that He is Lord of the whole universe because Jesus is so wonderful.

But there are many today, and will be in the future, who do not love the Lord, who will only bow their knee to Him and confess that He is indeed Lord, by force.

May I say to you that it really doesn't matter at all whether you believe that Jesus is Lord, He still is. And you might not bow your knee to Him now, but there is coming a day when every knee will bow.

Why not fall in Love with Jesus now, when it is so easy to love Him.

The Physician Luke put it like this...

Luke 20:18

18 "Whoever falls on that stone called Jesus will be broken; but on whomever that stone called Jesus falls, it will grind him to powder." NKJV

The Lord is patient, longsuffering and full of mercy, but his patience has an ending place...

Psalms 103:8-10

8 The LORD is merciful and gracious, Slow to anger, and abounding in mercy.

9 **He will not always strive with us**, Nor will He keep His anger forever.

10 He has not dealt with us according to our sins, Nor punished us according to our iniquities. NKJV

Better to fall at His feet this morning and fall in love with Jesus than to wait and have to be forced to do it

Philippians 2:12

12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling;**

There are several places in the bible that are misquoted, or taken out of context, this unfortunately is one of them.

1. **Those that seek to teach a doctrine** of what you must do yourself to be acceptable to God so that he will admit you into heaven, often use this verse. “**After all, it says in Philippians, you have to work out your own salvation...**”
2. **I wish that they would have just continued into the next verse**, because then they would have a clear understanding of what is being spoken of here.

Philippians 2:13

13 for it is **WHAT?** **God who works in you both to will and to do** for His good pleasure.

1. **It is the Lord working in your life** that causes you to both will and to do all of His purposes for your life.
2. **So, Working out your salvation**, is then accepting, and working through where the Lord has you in your life.
3. **Whether it is a trial, difficulty, a sickness, disappointment, or failure**, work it out, in your heart and mind so that you are settled in knowing that the Lord will work it all out for good, according to His plan for your life...

If you have a correct view of your life, then you will understand that Jesus has a plan for you, and as I have said before, it is better than your plan.

Every second of your life is under His power, plan, and authority.

So work it out in your mind and heart, to accept wherever He has you, and trust Him!

Verse 12 has absolutely nothing to do with you working to earn your salvation, the entire books of Romans and Galatians are dedicated to the fact that Jesus paid the full price for you.

- **Your part is to believe** that Jesus did pay for your sins, turn from your sin, to Jesus and Invite Him into your heart to be Lord and Savior of your life.

Philippians 2:14

14 Do all things without complaining and disputing,

15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world,

Doesn't that just drive you crazy, when people want to argue with you or complain to you?

- **Imagine 6 billion people all at the same time** whining at God, “Why did you do this”, How come you let this happen?”

- **“I don’t like this town that I live in God,** I don’t like my Job, I don’t like my circumstances...”

I am really embarrassed sometimes at the way that people whine and complain with each other. And if it is someone that claims to know Jesus, man!, it really drives me crazy, not that I ever complain or whine myself...

- **How does it look to the people around us** that know that we know Jesus, if they see us arguing with each other or complaining about everything in our lives?

Matthew 5:14-16

14 **You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.

15 Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house.

16 **Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.** NKJV

Jesus is saying that we are his light holders, we are to display to the world what it is like to know Jesus and have a relationship with Him.

1. **If they see us arguing, and complaining about everything, old sour pusses, who wants to know Jesus so that I can be like that?**
2. **Sometimes I think when people see us** they must think that we are baptized in Lemon Juice, we are so sour...
3. **No, when they see us, and hear us,** they should hear us being gracious and patient and rejoicing that the Lord is working in our lives, however difficult it might be, we have confidence in Gods promise to make it turn out for good in the end...
4. **We need to live our lives in such a way, that we are “Blameless”** Do you know what that means? That no one can accuse us of being complainers or arguers...

Philippians 2:16

16 **holding fast the word of life,** so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

“Hold fast” that Word that you have there in your hands.

NT:1907 **EPECHO** (ep-ekh'-o)

“**Hold Fast**” means to “**Hold on tight**” to Gods Word. “**To Detain something, make it stay and linger**”, and also it means “**To Pay Attention To it**”.

One day without reading and meditating upon it, I have not held it tight, it begins to slip away.

- **I also need to do what the Word says.** If I come to Church and the Word says that I need to stop whining about everything, **I need to begin to make a good effort to stop complaining so much.**

Philippians 2:17

17 Yes, and **if I am being poured out as a drink offering** on the sacrifice and service of your faith, **I am glad** and rejoice with you all.

18 For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me

It appears here that at this time, Paul might have know that his days on earth were numbered.

1. **He had already most likely, had his first hearing regarding** the false charges that had been brought against him, that he was seeking to overthrow the Roman government.
2. **Paul, as a Roman citizen**, had the right to appeal to the emperor himself, so he is probably about to go before Nero.
3. **Knowing the kind of emperor that Nero was**, Paul didn't know if He would be set free or put to death by Nero.
4. **In Philippians chapter 1**, you remember that Paul said that he was torn between the fact that He might have his life ended soon, which he believed would be awesome, because then he would immediately be in the presence of Jesus.
5. **Or, was it better for Paul to stick around** on earth for awhile to teach and encourage the other believers.
6. **This he said, he felt was better**, so that he could help someone else make it into Jesus presence.
7. **Here he says what should be our main goal this morning**, to just totally give our life over to the control of Jesus so that we might even be poured out in the service of trying to effect someone for Jesus.

Philippians 2:19

19 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.

Man, how hard it is to find people to serve with you who really care about what is important to Jesus.

1. **Those who care about every detail of the ministry**, and giving our best to the Lord and His people.
2. **They don't do it for money or recognition**, They just do it because they love Jesus.
3. **Those who are not interested in any glory for themselves**, and they don't care who gets the credit for anything they do, they just want Jesus to be lifted up.
4. **Paul said that he really didn't have anyone** other than young Timothy that really cared for the people...
5. **People have many different reasons for wanting to be in the Ministry, but if any reason is other than just to Love and Glorify Jesus and Bless His people, it is the wrong reason!**

Philippians 2:22

22 But you know his proven character, that as a son with his father 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.

Timothy was the one that was writing down in this letter that you have this morning, all that Paul said.

Timothy is going to stay with Paul faithful serving, until Paul goes before Caesar Nero, if Paul is Killed he will carry on just as if Paul was himself still doing the ministry.

25 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.

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. NKJV

Epaphroditus is another faithful man there with Paul who apparently got sick, was prayed for by the church, and then recovered.

Epaphroditus was the one that hand carried this letter to the Church at Philippi.