

# No Playing Favorites...But...

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## Philippians

Detailed Outline from the Sermon on June 8, 2008

### **Thanksgiving and high hopes (1:1-11)**

Words of affirmation and affection

A prayer that your love may abound in knowledge and discernment.

### **Even in chains (1:12-19)**

Some are saved – especially the palace guard – because of Paul's imprisonment.

Others are encouraged (even though...)

Because of my chains to be more bold in their preaching, though some do it for the wrong reasons.

Even I will be delivered

Somehow, whether in living or dying. Either way is fine.

### **Life or death questions (1:20-30)**

I'm hoping for enough courage; enough so that I don't shame Christ whether I live or die.

To live is Christ

To die is gain

Whichever, whatever

I don't know which is better now.

I don't know which I prefer.

Probably, I'll be around to preach and be with you again.

### **If you *really* want to make me happy (2:1-18)**

Stick together. How? Consider others more important (better) than yourselves.  
Put on the attitude of Jesus.

Do nothing out of vain conceit or selfish ambition.

Give your salvation a workout.

Even more in my absence.

Do it all without grumbling.

I want you to shine like stars and stars don't grumble. I'm being poured  
out like a drink offering, and I'm still rejoicing.

### **Some people to honor (2:19-30)**

Timothy

I want to send Timothy soon. There's no one like him. He's proven and  
Christ-centered.

Epaphroditus

Fellow worker, fellow soldier...your messenger that you sent to take care  
of me. He was ill and almost died. I want to send him home for your joy  
and his. Welcome him with joy and honor. He almost died for the work  
of Christ.

### **Beware of bad religion (3:1-11)**

Rejoice in the lord! Legalism is bad religion.

Watch out for the mutilators...those dogs! You can't earn salvation with  
circumcision or any religious ritual.

If anyone knows, I know...I'm steeped in those traditions.

It's all loss compared to knowing Jesus.

I want to *really* know Christ.

The power of his resurrection

The fellowship of sharing in his sufferings

Becoming like him in death

Following him into resurrection

**Pressing on**

I'm not there, yet

But I press on to take hold of that for which Christ took hold of me.

Living into my purpose

Forgetting what lies behind, I strain toward the future goals.

Straining forward

Everyone who is mature should see it this way.

Do you live according to earthly or heavenly things?

Some go one way to their demise. But our citizenship is in heaven.

Glorious bodies

And He's coming back to transform these lowly bodies into glorious ones.

So stand firm in the faith.

**Final encouragements (4:1-20)**

Work it out, people!

Rejoice! I said rejoice!

Surpassing peace

Don't be anxious...pray...

Worthy thoughts

Whatever is true, just, honorable, pure, lovely, gracious, excellent, worthy of praise – fill your minds with these things.

Worthy practices

Whatever you've heard and seen in me...DO!

The art of contentment

I know what it is to be fulfilled with plenty or want. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Nobody does it better than you Philippians.

You guys are the best.

Sharing

Giving

Caring

Now, my God will meet all your needs according to Christ Jesus.