



What the Gospel Makes Possible

PASTOR MIKE YODER • PHILIPPIANS

*Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,
To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus at Philippi, together
with the overseers and deacons:*

*Grace and peace to you from God our Father and
the Lord Jesus Christ.*

Profiling the Authors



Highlighting Key Themes



Joy is how believers who know Christ and whose futures are guaranteed by Christ respond in the context of present difficulties. Whatever else, life in Christ is a life of joy.

**To miss this reality is to miss Philippians altogether;
and to miss Philippians at this point is to miss out on an
essential quality of Christian life.**

The Gospel is more than a set of beliefs shared by believers; it is the standard by which believers must measure their lives as citizens in God's kingdom.

Matthew Harmon

Behind every command to be or do something stands the firm foundation of what God has done for us in the person and work of Jesus Christ and the provision of the Spirit to enable our obedience.

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Investigating the Context





The character of the city





*The beginnings of
the church (Acts 16)*

Getting Acquainted with the Church



Causes for Commendation



God's people belong to the future that has already come present. They live the life of the future in the present, determined by its values and perspective, no matter what their present circumstances.



Cautions and Corrections

**Paul's letter reveals that he was concerned about three problems in the church in Philippi:
(1) disunity, (2) suffering, and (3) opponents.**

The integrity of the Gospel is negated by disunity in the church. The mission of the family of God in the world depends upon their unity with one another.

G. Walter Hansen

Recognizing the Director



**The beginning of Philippians highlights WHO CHRIST IS:
It points us to Christ, both for now and forever. Christ is the
Gospel; Christ is Savior and Lord; thus Christ is our life;**

Christ is our way of life; Christ is our future; Christ is our joy; “to live is Christ; to die is gain”; and all to the glory of our God and Father.

The beginning of Philippians highlights **WHO WE ARE:**
As believers, we are **servants** of Jesus Christ, meaning
that we belong to Him and we are at His disposal.

We are **saints**, meaning that we are set apart for God's special purposes in this world. We are **in Christ Jesus**, which means that we are now under His control and authority.

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We are **recipients of God's matchless grace**, meaning that we are no longer under His wrath and condemnation but rather in a right relationship with Him.

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We are **sons and daughters of God**, meaning that we are part of a new spiritual family that transcends even the bonds of our earthly families.

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**Amidst suffering and
opposition, look at the spiritual
family Christ can create!**