



All for One, All as One

PASTOR MIKE YODER • PHILIPPIANS 1:27–30

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the Gospel

Philippians 1:27

without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved — and that by God.

For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for Him,

*since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had,
and now hear that I still have.*

Gospel people live consistently
in light of their identity. (1:27a)

The Gospel of Christ provides the motive and the pattern for all Christian behavior.

“Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me.”

Matthew 5:11

“Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.”

Matthew 5:12

“You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot.”

Matthew 5:13

“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden.”

Matthew 5:14

“Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house.”

Matthew 5:15

“In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.”

Matthew 5:16

Their good conduct as citizens in their heavenly colony, the Church, will be a brilliant witness in their life as citizens in Philippi, the Roman colony.

The Philippians are to be true to their membership of that new city “which has Christ for its King, the Gospel for its law, and the Christian as its citizen.”

Pierre Benoit

But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ...

We can be Americans best when we realize that we are not Americans first.

Russell Moore



Gospel people stand **together** in
light of their **opposition**. (1:27b,28)





All the believers were one in heart and mind. No one claimed that any of their possessions was their own, but they shared everything they had.

Like teammates who set aside individual glory for the success of the team, believers must set aside individual agendas for the common good of the church.

Matthew Harmon

Whether it is verbal or physical abuse, ridicule, loss of possessions or loved ones, or even the possibility of dying for one's faith, the believer is not to be frightened because of what opponents of the Gospel do or threaten.

Matthew Harmon

Are we experiencing spiritual opposition and “blowback” for our identity in the Gospel? Or are we experiencing difficulty because of lots of “friendly fire” and carnal sniping within our midst?

Gospel people suffer well in
light of their salvation. (1:29,30)

To suffer on behalf of Christ is actually a privilege given by God.

Ralph Martin

God is the responsible agent of the whole situation, who sends the persecutions they must undergo, the solid resistance with which they must confront them, and the assurance of salvation which follows.

Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance;

perseverance, character; and character, hope.

And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

The Philippians' suffering was (largely) due to their purity of life and consciousness of high calling in Christ Jesus, which were a constant challenge and rebuke to their pagan neighbors.

Peter O'Brien

“If the world hates you, keep in mind that it hated Me first.”

John 15:18

“If you belonged to the world, it would love you as its own. As it is, you do not belong to the world, but I have chosen you out of the world. That is why the world hates you.”

John 15:19

Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day He visits us.

His speech persuaded them. They called the Apostles in and had them flogged. Then they ordered them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go.

The Apostles left the Sanhedrin, rejoicing because they had been counted worthy of suffering disgrace for the Name.

Day after day, in the temple courts and from house to house, they never stopped teaching and proclaiming the good news that Jesus is the Messiah.

Our own suffering, whatever it is, often gives us the best opportunity to display the Gospel in our lives.

Zac Hess

**We are citizens of heaven whose
lives shine while deployed on earth.**