

Philippians 4:1-23 **Conclusion – Thanks for faithful support – Salutation**

Stand Fast In The Lord

¹ Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

Call to unity

² I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

Encouragement of the Saints

³ And I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the Book of Life.

Godly Counsel

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice! ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand. ⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Godly Focus

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy--meditate on these things. ⁹ The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gratitude for the support from Philippi – Content in whatever circumstances

¹⁰ But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at last your care for me has flourished again; though you surely did care, but you lacked opportunity. ¹¹ Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: ¹² I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. ¹³ I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

¹⁴ Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. ¹⁵ Now you Philippians know also that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church shared with me concerning giving and receiving but you only. ¹⁶ For even in Thessalonica you sent aid once and again for my necessities. ¹⁷ Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that abounds to your account. ¹⁸ Indeed I have all and abound. I am full, having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. ¹⁹ And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

All Glory to God

²⁰ Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Greetings to the Saints

²¹ Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. ²² All the saints greet you, but especially those who are of Caesar's household. ²³ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

NKJV

Facts Revealed:

Stand Fast In The Lord [Philippians 4:1]

- ✠ Paul views the Saints he has nurtured as beloved brethren his joy and crown.
- ✧ The best advice and encouragement a Christian leader can give his followers is to **stand fast in the Lord** clinging to the original message of the Gospel.

Call to unity [Philippians 4:2]

- ✠ Euodia and Syntyche seem to be at odds with each other, and Paul singles them out with the plea for unity of mind in the Lord.

Encouragement of the Saints [Philippians 4:3]

- ✠ Paul calls for support toward his fellow workers in the Gospel.
- ✧ Among the fellow workers are the women whom Paul said labored with him along with Clement, and the rest of his fellow workers.
- ✧ All of them Paul is convinced their names are in the Book of Life.

Godly Counsel [Philippians 4:4-7]

- ✠ Paul gives a small series of commands and encouragement most fitting for Saints of God.
- ✧ Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!
- ✧ Let your gentleness be known to all men
- ✧ The Lord is at hand.
- ✧ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God
- ✧ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Godly Focus [Philippians 4:8-9]

- ✠ Paul calls the Saints to look for that which is best for the edification and up-building of the body of Christ.
- ✧ Finally, brethren, whatever things are **true**, whatever things are **noble**, whatever things are **just**, whatever things are **pure**, whatever things are **lovely**, whatever things are **of good report**, if there is any **virtue** and if there is anything **praiseworthy**--meditate on these things.
- ✠ Follow Paul's Example.
- ✧ The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

Gratitude for the support from Philippi – Content in whatever circumstances [Philippians 4:10-19]

- ✠ Paul praises the Philippians for their care for himself as expressed in their support he received from them.
- ✧ There was a time their support was not there when needed because they did not have the opportunity to send it.
- ✧ Paul is not begging from deep need, but in the absence of support, Paul learned to be content with whatever he had.
- ✧ Paul knows how to abound in the bounty of the Lord, but the time support was lacking Paul learned to be abased (humbled).
- ✧ Paul said, "Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need."
- ✧ His conclusion is, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
- ✠ Nevertheless you have done well that you shared in my distress. [Philippians 4:10]
- ✧ Paul has great praise and thanksgiving for the Church at Philippi because of their faithfulness in sending support when he was in need.

- ✧ The Church of Philippi is in Macedonia and the only one to send support when he left to go to Greece. [Philippi 4:15, 2 Corinthians 8:1-5, 11:9]
- ✧ Even when Paul was at the Church in Thessalonica which also is in Macedonia, the Church in Philippi sent him support.
- ✧ Though Paul is not writing this seeking a gift, he sees it as fruit that abounds to the account of the Philippians to be rewarded by God.
- ✧ Now Paul feels himself to abound in all things since Epaphroditus has arrived from Philippi with their gift.
- ✧ Paul calls it a sweet smelling aroma, and acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God.
- ✧ Paul is confident that God will supply all their needs according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

All Glory to God [Philippians 4:20]

✧ Now to our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen.

Greetings to the Saints [Philippians 4:21-23]

✧ Paul closes with greetings all around and from those in Rome.

✧ Greet every saint in Christ Jesus.

✧ The brethren who are with me greet you.

✧ All the saints greet you, but especially those who are of Caesar's household.

✧ Final blessing:

✧ The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.