

**J**  **Y**

*from the inside out*

# Introduction

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Philippians 4:10-14

**“I have learned to be content with whatever I have.  
<sup>12</sup> I know what it is to have little, and I know what  
it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I  
have learned the secret of being well-fed and of  
going hungry, of having plenty and of being in  
need. <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through him who  
strengthens me.” The Apostle Paul**

**Philippians 4:11-13**



What are you willing to do for Jesus?  
And will you be content? Even Joyful?  
And where will that joy come from?

[Video](#)

“People tell me I am brave. People tell me I am strong. People tell me “good job”. Well here is the truth of it. I am really not that brave, I am not really that strong, and I am not doing anything spectacular. I am just doing what God called me to do as a follower of Jesus.” Katie

Where does this kind of  
contentment come from?

And where can I get me  
some of that?!?!?!?

Philippi

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# THE ROMAN EMPIRE



Boundary of the Empire at the death of Augustus (AD 14)





1 Main Street, Philippi ;-)



## Religion in Philippi

People of Philippi

**Paul describes the Philippian  
Church as existing**

**“in the midst of a crooked and  
perverse generation”**

**Philippians 2:15**

# Acts 16

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The Story of how the church in Philippi came to be....

# Paul's First Visit to Philippi

Luke is writing...“They (Paul, Timothy, and Silas) went down to Troas. 9 During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, ‘Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ 10 When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.” Acts 16:8-10

## Evangelism Plan for Philippi:

“<sup>13</sup> On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there.”

**Acts 16:13**



Gangitis River  
Paul meets Lydia

# Lydia



Acts 16:14-15 <sup>14</sup> A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup> When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.



Ultimate Bible  
Picture Collection

# Trouble Starts

One day, as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a slave-girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you a way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

Acts 16:16-18

# Philippi Jail

Acts 16:19-24 <sup>19</sup> But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. <sup>20</sup> When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city;

they are Jews <sup>21</sup> and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." <sup>22</sup> The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. <sup>23</sup> After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. <sup>24</sup> Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.



What do you do when you are  
treated like this?

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## Praise God!

**Acts 16:25** <sup>25</sup> About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them.

# Earthquake!

Acts 16:26-30 <sup>26</sup> Suddenly there was an earthquake, so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. <sup>27</sup> When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. <sup>28</sup> But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." <sup>29</sup> The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. <sup>30</sup> Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?"

# Earthquake!

Acts 16:31 -34 <sup>31</sup> They answered, "Believe on the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." <sup>32</sup> They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. <sup>33</sup> At the same hour of the night he took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. <sup>34</sup> He brought them up into the house and set food before them; and he and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

# Roman Citizens!

Acts 16:35-40 <sup>35</sup> When morning came, the magistrates sent the police, saying, "Let those men go." <sup>36</sup> And the jailer reported the message to Paul, saying, "The magistrates sent word to let you go; therefore come out now and go in peace." <sup>37</sup> But Paul replied, "They have beaten us in public, uncondemned, men who are Roman citizens, and have thrown us into prison; and now are they going to discharge us in secret? Certainly not! Let them come and take us out themselves." <sup>38</sup> The police reported these words to the magistrates, and they were afraid when they heard that they were Roman citizens; <sup>39</sup> so they came and apologized to them. And they took them out and asked them to leave the city. <sup>40</sup> After leaving the prison they went to Lydia's home; and when they had seen and encouraged the brothers and sisters there, they departed.

# What happens to Paul next?

- Paul travels to other cities starting other churches. He is mistreated in a variety of ways in these cities too. Sometimes the people who claim to be Christians reject him. 50-55 AD, Acts 17- 21:17
- Paul goes to Jerusalem despite dire prophecies not to go to Jerusalem. He follows God and goes anyway. While there, he is beaten by Jews because he teaches that God loves Gentiles. The Jews force the Romans to arrest him. 56 AD, Acts 21:18-23:35
- Paul is tried by local Roman government officials and imprisoned. 57-58 AD, Acts 24-26
- Paul appeals to Emperor Nero. Paul is put on a prison ship to take him to be tried by the Emperor. Ship sinks and he is stuck on an island for the winter waiting for the next boat. 59-60 AD, Acts 27-28:15
- Paul is under house arrest in Rome waiting for Emperor Nero to try him. The Philippians send him money and a helper, Epaphroditus, who gets sick and instead of caring for Paul, Paul has to take care of him. Paul writes Philippians while under house arrest. 60-62 AD, Acts 28:16-31



Paul writes  
Philippians  
while  
under  
house  
arrest in  
Rome...

# Philippians is Paul's Thank you Note

## **Philippians 4:10-14**

Loosely translated: "Thank you for the gift, but I have a secret, I can be content with or without your gift."

**J**  **Y**

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