



*from the inside out*

<sup>1</sup>Paul and Timothy, servants<sup>A</sup> of Christ Jesus, To all the saints<sup>B</sup> in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: <sup>2</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

*A: servants = slaves. Early Christians referred to themselves as “slaves” of Jesus rather than “followers”.*

*B: saints = those who are set aside for holy use = all followers of Jesus*

<sup>3</sup> I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup> constantly praying with joy<sup>A</sup> in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup> because of your sharing<sup>B</sup> in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup> I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you<sup>C</sup> will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ.

*A: with joy = with great delight*

*B: sharing = koinonia= fellowship = participation (the work they have done together) = business partners*

*C: among you = in you. “Among you” is just a wrong translation. To be correct “you” would have to be plural (“you all” – Greeks were like southerners and had a way of saying “you all”!), but you is singular in the Greek. Therefore it is not talking about God doing good works in the community of believers, but inside the individual.*

<sup>7</sup> It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup> For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus.

## Week 2 Class Notes: Phil 1:1-11

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**The Prayer:** <sup>9</sup> And this is my prayer, that your love<sup>A</sup> may overflow<sup>B</sup> more and more with knowledge<sup>C</sup> and full insight<sup>D</sup>

*A: love = agape = God's love.*

*B: overflow = bubble forth like a stream*

*C: knowledge = knowledge (of God)*

*D: full insight = discernment = knowledge (of God's will)*

*Note: Paul is not praying for love. He knows that God's love is already inside every Christian. He is praying that God's love will bubble forth from them like a stream, but that the love which flows from them will be coupled with knowledge and discernment.*

**The Purpose of the Prayer:** <sup>10</sup> to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup> having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.