

A LETTER OF JOY (Phil. 1:1-8)

September 13, 2026

TEXT—Philippians 1:1-8.

Paul wrote this letter, probably from Rome, while on house arrest between A.D. 60-62.

Purpose—Paul thanks the Philippians for their support of his ministry and encourages them to have greater joy, unity, & contentment in Christ.

Philippian's Theme is joy in the LORD.

James 1:2; Jude 24

PAUL'S GREETING (Phil. 1:1-2). Paul identifies himself and Timothy as the primary author and recorder of this joyful letter with the pastors, leaders, and congregation in mind as the recipients of this letter written from prison.

Author and Audience(V1).

Eph. 1:1; Col. 1:2

Grace and Peace(V2).

Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 5:1

PAUL'S GRATITUDE (Phil. 1:3-8). Paul moved from greeting the church in Philippi to expressing deep heartfelt gratitude for them. He gives thanks for 3 blessings they share in Christ.

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Gospel Partnerships—**(V3-5)**.

They partnered with Paul through:

-a common faith in the Gospel

(1:12-13, 27-28);

-giving financial support

(4:14-15).

-their deep concern for Paul's

wellbeing & continued

relationship **(4:10).**

Acts 16:12-15; Acts 16:25-34, 40

God's Good Work—**(V6)**

1) God began the work.

Eph. 2:8-9; Rom. 11:36

2) God's work is a good work.

Rom. 8: 28; Eph. 2:10.

3) God's good work is an inside

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job. **Rom. 8:29, Col. 1:28**

4) God will finish the work He
started in us!

Partaking in Grace(**V7-8**)

When Paul says in V7, '...for you are all partakers with me of grace...*' he is modeling an important practice that encourages believers. Paul identifies and calls out where he sees God's grace at work in the Philippians.

Conclusion—This is a letter of Joy. My prayer for us is that God would give birth to more and more saints by His grace, increasing His grace and peace to us & through us, and may He multiply our gratitude through more Gospel partnerships, finishing His good work in us, and more people partaking in grace, for His glory and our joy!