

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

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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

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them. He gives thanks for 3 blessings they share in Christ.

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).**

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

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

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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!