

A Study of the Book of Philippians

Theme: "OUR PARTNERSHIP IN THE GOSPEL!"

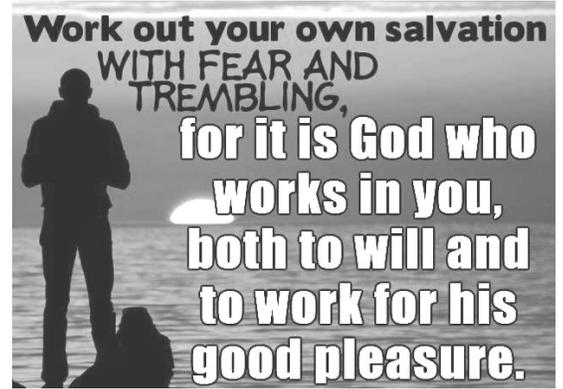
Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK.

Pastor David R. Nehrenz

Lesson: 12 Chapter 2:12-18

Date: 11-24-19

BIBLE TEXT:



*(1) So if there is any encouragement in **Christ**, any comfort from love, any participation in **the Spirit**, any affection and sympathy, (2) complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. (3) Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. (4) Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.*

*(5) Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in **Christ Jesus**, (6) who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, (7) but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. (8) And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. (9) Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, (10) so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, (11) and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

(12) Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, (13) for it is **God** who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. (14) Do all things without grumbling or questioning, (15) that you may be blameless and innocent, children of **God** without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, (16) holding fast to the word of life, so that in **the day of Christ** I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

(17) Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. (18) Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

(19) I hope in **the Lord Jesus** to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. (20) For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. (21) They all seek their own interests, not those of **Jesus Christ**. (22) But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a son with a father he has served with me in the gospel. (23) I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, (24) and I trust in **the Lord** that shortly I myself will come also.

(25) I have thought it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need, (26) for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. (27) Indeed he was ill, near to death. But **God** had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow. (28) I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. (29) So receive him in **the Lord** with all joy, and honor such men, (30) for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.

STUDY NOTES:

- Obeyed – the commands of God (**Rom 1:5; 15:18; 2 Cor 10:5,6**)
- The presence and the absence of the Apostle Paul – his missionary journeys
(2nd journey **Acts 16:12-40**; 3rd journey **Acts 20:1,3,6**)
- Work out your salvation – carry it to the finish, persevere, develop, growth, ongoing process
strenuous involvement, maturation, (**Mt 24:13; 1 Cor 9:24-27; Heb 3:14; 6:9-11; 2 Pet 1:5-8**)

- Fear and trembling – taking one’s spiritual life seriously – no laughing matter (**2 Cor 7:15**)
- To will and to do and to act out one’s faith (**Gal 5:6; Jas 2:18-22**)
- No complaining or arguing (**1 Cor 10:10; 2 Tim 2:23; Titus 3:9**)
- Blameless and pure and without fault – covered in Jesus’ righteousness
(**1 Th 3:13; Mt 5:45-48; Eph 5:1**)

- Crooked and depraved generation of mankind (**Mt 17:17; Acts 2:40; Eph 2:1-3**)
- Shine like the stars (**Dan 12:1-3; Mt 5:15,16**)
- The Word of life (**Acts 13:46-49; 1 John 1:1,2**)
- The Day of Christ (**1 Cor 1:8; 2 Pet 3:18**)

- I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith,
(**Ex 29:38-41; Num 28:7; Rom 15:16; 2 Cor 6:10; 12:15; 2 Tim 4:6**)
Paul is in prison and considers that his blood may soon be poured out in his
death as a martyr, on the altar of God, on behalf of God’s people.

LIFE APPLICATION:

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is **God** who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. How does this actually happen in our lives?

Formula of Concord – Solid Declaration Part 2- Free Will or Human Powers

⁵⁰ To this end, in **his boundless kindness and mercy, God** provides for the public proclamation of his divine, eternal law and the wonderful counsel concerning our redemption, namely, the holy and only saving Gospel of his eternal Son, our only Saviour and Redeemer, Jesus Christ. Thereby he gathers an eternal church for himself out of the human race and **works in the hearts of men true repentance and knowledge of their sins and true faith in the Son of God**, Jesus Christ. And it is God’s will to call men to eternal salvation, to draw them to himself, convert them, beget them anew, and sanctify them through this means and in no other way—namely, through his holy Word (when one hears it preached or reads it) and the sacraments (when they are used according to his Word).

⁵¹ “For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe” (1 Cor. 1:21). “Peter will declare to you a message by which you will be saved, you and your household” (Acts 11:14). “Faith comes from what is heard, and what is heard comes by the preaching of Christ” (Rom. 10:17). “Sanctify them in the truth; thy Word is truth. I pray for those who are to believe in me through their Word” (John 17:17, 20). Therefore the eternal Father calls out from heaven concerning his beloved Son and concerning all who in his name preach repentance and the remission of sins, “Listen to him” (Matt. 17:5). ⁵² **All who would be saved must hear this preaching, for the preaching and the hearing of God’s Word are the Holy Spirit’s instrument in, with, and through which he wills to act efficaciously, to convert men to God, and to work in them both to will and to achieve.**