

## A Study of the Book of Philippians

**Theme:**

**“OUR PARTNERSHIP  
IN THE GOSPEL!”**

Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK.

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**Lesson: 27**

**Chapter 4:1-3**

**Date: 5-17-20**



### **BIBLE TEXT:**

(1) Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in **the Lord**, my beloved. (2) I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in **the Lord**. (3) Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

(4) Rejoice in **the Lord** always; again I will say, Rejoice. (5) Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; (6) do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to **God**. (7) **And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

(8) Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (9) What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and **the God of peace** will be with you.

(10) I rejoiced in **the Lord** greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. (11) Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. (12) I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. (13) I can do all things through **him who strengthens me.**

(14) Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. (15) And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. (16) Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. (17) Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. (18) I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to **God.**

(19) And **my God** will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in **Christ Jesus**. (20) To **our God and Father** be glory forever and ever. Amen. (21) Greet every saint in **Christ Jesus**. The brothers who are with me greet you. (22) All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. (23) **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.**

## **STUDY NOTES:**

- Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown,  
stand firm thus in **the Lord**, my beloved.

(1 Cor 15:58; 16:13; 2 Cor 1:14; 1 Thess 2:19,20)

- I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in **the Lord**.

(Mt 28:19; 1 Cor 1:10; 2 Cor 13:11)

- Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side  
with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers,

(Rom 16:1-23; Phm 24)

**Note:** The fact that these two women and two men are mentioned here indicates that they  
were prominent members of the congregation.

- whose names are in the book of life.

(Ex 32:32; Ps 69:28; Dan 12:1; Lk 10:20; Rev 3:5; 13:8; 17:8; 20:12; 21:27)

## **LIFE APPLICATION:**

1. How do we in our generation stand firm in **the Lord**, as beloved children of **God**?
2. Why must we continue to labor side by side in the gospel together?
3. What is the comfort of knowing our names are in the book of life?

## **LUTHER'S WORKS: Vol 16 page 51 – The Elect and the Book of Life**

*“In that day the Branch of the Lord shall be.* Here again he consoles **the remnant of the people**, as in Jerusalem... *In that day*, namely, now, after Jerusalem has been laid waste. The *Branch* is Christ. Yet there is nothing that He seems to do less than grow. The world would rather say that Christ and His Christians are a dried up tree trunk. But they are not regarded as such before God.

*Beautiful and glorious.* Splendid, excellent, glorious, something superb. The kingdom of the Jews was glorious in a physical way, but **the kingdom of Christ** is now glorious in the spirit. He says, however, that Christ should be extolled with great majesty.

*Glory*, which comes from importance in such a way that where there is glow, there something else is close by. But he calls Christ One who comes from the fruit of the land because He was born great from the earth, and it is His greatness that He can prevail over all His enemies and protect all His own; and this is a description of Christ as He defends us. Such a One, he says, Christ will be, but for those who will be from among those who have been snatched out of Jerusalem, as he also says. And here he sets forth the fruit of their riches which He will distribute, because Christ will be such a One not only for Himself but will distribute His benefits to the rest. Thus because of Him and through Him **they will be called saints, that is, people set aside for divine purposes**, people in whom God dwells and who belong to the employment and service of God.

*Those living in Jerusalem*, that is, **the elect**. For the condemned have perished from **the book of life**, in **which are written the names of the saints in heaven**.

*When the Lord shall have washed away, etc.* This is also a part of the riches distributed through Christ. He who has begun to believe in Christ departs from evil. For to **the faithful** is given the Holy Spirit, who cannot be inactive when He is in your hearts. For first He cleanses the flesh from sin in order that the eyes, the hands, the tongue, and the other members may be clean; and indeed He cleanses more every day. Then He fights with death and the devil in order that He may drive them away too.”