

Sunday 22 March 2020

Acts 16:6-40; Philippians 1:1-2: The Source of Our Joy

“Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus, to all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 1:1-2)

A Quotable Book:

- “For me to live is Christ, to die is gain” (1:21)
- “I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better” (1:23)
- “Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others” (2:3-4)
- 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” (2:12-13).
- “But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ” (3:20)
- “Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice” (4:4).
- “Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be known to God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus” (4:6-7)
- “I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content” (4:11)
- “I can do all things through him who strengthens me” (4:13)

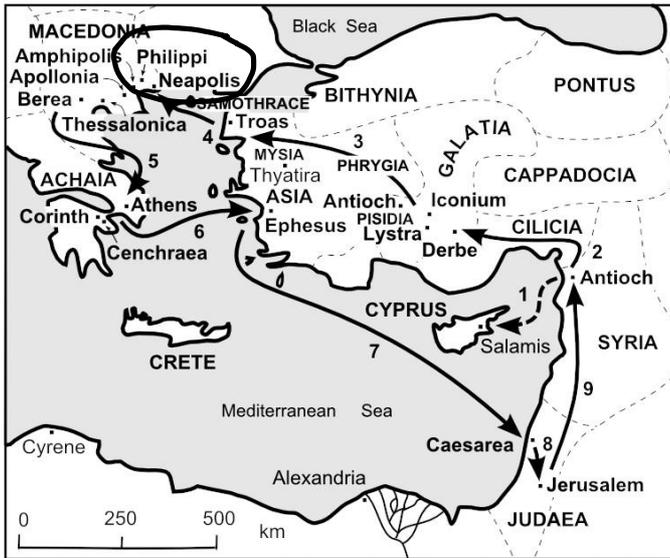
“I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you” (Psalm 119:11)

“We feel joy in our bodies because of the release of dopamine and serotonin, two types of neurotransmitters in the brain. Both of these chemicals are heavily associated with happiness.” (Healthline)

“Rejoice in the Lord *always*; again I will say, rejoice” (4:4)

1. How Paul got to Philippi

Paul's Second Missionary Journey:



“Come over to Macedonia and help us.’ And when Paul had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go on into Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to preach the gospel to them” (Acts 16:9-10)

2. How the Gospel was Received

“One who heard us was a woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple goods, who was a worshipper of God. The Lord opened her heart to pay attention to what was said by Paul” (Acts 16:14)

“These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation” (Acts 16:17)

“Sirs, what must I do to be saved?’ And they said, ‘Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household’” (16:30-31).

“I thank my God for every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now” (Philippians 1:3-5)

3. How Paul wrote to the Philippians

“Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus”

“...who took the form of a servant” (2:7)

“...all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the overseers and deacons”