

Philippian
Personality
Problems

Philippians 4

I. Stand Firm In Lord, 1

Satan will try to knock us off our feet

- Therefore: links to 3:20-21
- Beloved (2x): tragedies steal attention
 - Prisoners: 'don't forget me...'
 - Paul: could not forget his children
- Longed-for brethren: 'yearned after' (1:8; 2:26).
- Joy [3 Jn.4] and crown [1 Th.2:19]
 - Prize conferred on victors
 - Not obsessed with his virtues (3:4-8)...

Satan will try to knock us off our feet

- Stand fast [firm] in Lord
 - Stay true to the Lord
 - Keep relation with Lord firm
 - Plural: duty of every Christian; personal
 - Stand: common in prison epistles (Ep.6; Ph.1:27).
- Stand fast [firm] in Lord – not wishy-washy
 - ▶ Church problems – some waver.
 - 1 do right thing in present conflicts
 - 2 right thing for women: reconcile.

I. Stand Firm In Lord, 1

II. Be United In Lord, 2-3

He died for us; least we can do is live for Him

- Division is serious
- Paul must call names of two sisters...
- We know no details of their . . .
 - Labor. **Was it all in vain?**
 - Loss. **Is the fight worth it eternally?**

What do we know?

- I implore Euodia ...
 - I implore Syntyche ... both
1. Each must act [2:1-5; Mt.5; 18]
 - Names read to congregation; permanent record
 - Expected better of **both**

What do we know?

- Implore Euodia and Syntyche

1. Each must act [2:1-5; Mt.5; 18]

2. Be of same mind, 2. 2:2-5.

What do we know?

- Implore Euodia and Syntyche
 1. Each must act [2:1-5; Mt.5; 18]
 2. Be of same mind, 2. 2:2-5.
 3. In the Lord, 2.

What do we know?

- Implore Euodia and Syntyche

1. Each must act [2:1-5; Mt.5; 18]

2. Be of same mind, 2. 2:2-5.

3. In the Lord, 2.

4. Help these women, 3.

- ‘Rage colored’ glasses

- Deadly danger

What do we know?

- Implore Euodia and Syntyche

1. Each must act [2:1-5; Mt.5; 18]

2. Be of same mind, 2. 2:2-5.

3. In the Lord, 2.

4. Help these women, 3.

5. Labored with me, 3. *Help my helpers.*

What do we learn?

Mature Christians need help, too

1. True companion [yokefellow]
2. Help! They gave to others; now . . .
3. Mature, helpful Christians can fall into ugly attitudes. Do I . . .
 - ▶ hold grudge against a brother / sister?
 - ▶ slander, think worst, misrepresent?
 - ▶ rejoice if brother / sister falls?

Names are in Book of Life

- Cities kept record of citizens.
- Names removed at death. Ex.32:32-33
- Unforgiving spirit –
 - **Bad:** to be bad example
 - **Worse:** name removed from Book of Life
 - **Worst:** cause others to be removed.
Mt18:6

All sin is serious

- Ph.1:15-17, Rome: sad spectacle to world
- Ph.2:14-15, grieves Lord
- Ph.3:18-20, turns people away from Lord
- Ph.4:8-9, hinders work of church

Sin grows and spreads

- Charges, counter charges, ugly attitudes in congregation. [Ph.2:2]
- Often based on evil suspicions; think worst. [Ph.1:9]
- Leads to gossip, exaggeration. [Ph.2:14]
- Form factions / divisions. [Ph.1:27]
- People lose souls. (Ex.33:32f.) [Ph.1:6]
- Church loses reputation. [Ph.2:14-15]

Facing the facts

1. Heart of hate cannot do work of Lord.
2. God will not let Euodia / Syntyche mess up heaven.