



# ~ Thought For The Day ~

~gathering from the 4 winds~

“come just as you are”

Refresh, Restore, Rebuild = Healing



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## Prayer

God Father; in Jesus' name I ask it, God, I pray that our love may abound more and more and extend to its fullest development in knowledge and all keen insight, that it may display itself in greater depth of acquaintance and more comprehensive discernment. Lord, we delight ourselves in You and we will continue to rejoice because we are in You. Lord, we ask that we have strength for all things in Christ Who empowers us, that we are ready for anything and equal to anything through You. Lord lead us and guide us this day and week as we go forth, fill us with God's will for us and plans. Your yoke is easy and Your burden is light and I ask that this day is easy and light, in Jesus' name. Amen.

## Worship Music

[Are You A Good Person?-Living Waters](#)

[Walk On Water-Britt Nicole](#)

[Hanging On-Britt Nicole](#)

[Safe-Britt Nicole](#)

[World That Breaks-Britt Nicole](#)

## Scripture **Philippians Introduction (KJV; 2005)**

### Philippians 1:3-6 (KJV)

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,  
<sup>4</sup>Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy,  
<sup>5</sup>For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;  
<sup>6</sup>Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform *it* until the day of Jesus Christ:

### Philippians 3:13-14 (KJV)

<sup>13</sup> Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,  
<sup>14</sup> I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

### Philippians 4:11-13 (KJV)

<sup>11</sup> Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content.  
<sup>12</sup> I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.  
<sup>13</sup> I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

## Radio Stations...

[KWVE ...Calvary Chapel](#)

[KLOVE](#)

## Bible Studies

Chuck Smith

[Through The Bible](#)

[Bob Coy/Teachings](#)

[Mike MacIntosh](#)

[Jon Courson](#)

[Biblos.com](#)

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**A Letter of Joy:**

It is not easy to state the subject of this letter. It is, like most letters, about a number of things. But since it was occasioned by the reception of an offering of money from one of Paul's churches to help support him in his foreign missionary work, it is not inappropriate to call it a missionary letter by working at his trade as a tentmaker (1 Corin. 9:12; Acts 18:3). His reason was that there were many false teachers who would use his example wrongly to enrich themselves by preaching. There might also be people who would misinterpret Paul's motivation for accepting money. However, he did accept offerings from the church in Philippi while he was in Thessalonica (14:16) and also while he was in Corinth (2 Corin. 11:9).

**The Church in Philippi:**

This was the first church Paul established in Europe, early in his second missionary journey, around A.D. 51 (Acts 16). Lydia and the jailer of Philippi were among the converts. Luke the physician, author of one of the Gospels and the book of Acts, was its pastor for the first six years. Philippi may have been Luke's home, where he practiced medicine. Luke must have had a hand in the development of the character of the Philippian church, which, as far as we know, was one of the purest of the New Testament churches.

**The Occasion of the Letter:**

In A.D. 61-63, Paul was in prison in Rome, about 10 years after he had founded the church in Philippi and about three or four years after he had last visited there. Apparently he had begun to wonder if they had forgotten him (4:10). Then Epaphroditus arrived from faraway Philippi with an offering of money. Paul was deeply touched. Epaphroditus had nearly lost his life on the journey. When he recovered (2:25-30; 4:18), Paul sent him to Philippi with this beautiful letter.

**Philippi:**

The first emperor of Rome, Augustus, made Philippi a Roman colony, which gave the city many advantages over most other cities in the Roman Empire: its citizens had an autonomous governments, were immune from tribute and were created the same as if as if they actually lived in Italy. The Philippians' pride in their city may be seen in Acts 16: 20-21 as well as in some of Paul's terminology (Philippians 1:27; 3:20). The Via Egnatia, the main highway from Asia to the west, passed through Philippi and ran alongside the forum of the city. Paul's choice of Philippi as the location of ministry throws light on the strategy of his evangelism. The church at Philippi was founded in the course of Paul's second missionary journey (Acts 16), as Philippi became the first European city in which he preached. Near the city was the river Gangites (modern Angitis), where apparently the small Jewish population in Philippi congregated for prayer. The new church did not forget its founder, however, for gifts were sent to Paul on several occasions (Philippians 4:15-16). Paul made a second, and possibly third, visit to Philippi on his third missionary journey (Acts 20:1-6). (Halley's Bible Handbook; 2000; history, notes, commentaries; pages 811-812).

Strength comes from the joy of the Lord. Rejoice in all things and cultivate real joy in your life. Joy is more than emotional happiness; it can be anything from extreme hilarity to calm delight. Practice that calm delight in every area of your life.

Philippians is full of truths and principles for living a victorious Christian life; it contains much practical advice for everyday life; and it is a book of great joy. Even though Paul wrote this book from a prison cell, undoubtedly in very bad conditions, he had real joy in his heart and he encouraged his readers to do the same. He knew that the joy of the Lord is so important because it is our strength and a source of power (see [Nehemiah 8:10](#)). He knew that the enemy always wants to steal our joy so he can sap our strength. His words are as true today as they were when he wrote them, and you and I need to develop and maintain our joy just as the Philippians did so long ago.

I define joy as "anything from extreme hilarity to calm delight, a feeling of pleasure." We all enjoy extreme hilarity from time to time, but what we want in everyday life is that calm delight—that steadfast sense of peace, pleasure, and well-being we can only find through a personal relationship with God.

Whatever you are facing as you read Philippians, let me urge you to rejoice. Even in the midst of difficulties or sadness, the joy of the Lord is available to you and it is your strength. Do learn the many practical lessons that Philippians teaches, but above all, learn to live in the strength that comes from rejoicing in God in every situation. Remember that happiness is based on what happens, but joy is a fruit of the Holy Spirit Who dwells in us as believers in Jesus Christ.

Do not be discouraged with yourself just because you have not yet arrived at a place of perfection in your thoughts and behavior. God would not be angry with you if He came back today and found you just as you are, as long as He sees that you have the right attitude and are cooperating with the work He is doing in you. He knows you are a work in progress—and you will be for as long as you live (see [Philippians 1:6](#)). Enjoy where you are on the way to where you are going!

God always finishes what He starts. He has called us unto Himself and started a good work in us, and He will finish it (see [Philippians 1:6](#)). That is a promise. Of course, we have a part to play, which is to keep believing Him and cooperating with the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit in our lives. I know it is frustrating sometimes to feel we are in the middle of something and do not know how to go forward, but to also know that we cannot go back. We love Jesus and want to go all the way through to the finish with Him, but sometimes it becomes difficult. Jesus Himself understands that.

Jesus lived in a fleshly body while He was here on earth and He understands what it is like to be tempted. You may experience temptation to sin or even just to quit and give up, but God will strengthen you to go all the way to the finish with Him if you ask Him. Keep your eyes on the prize. It may be uncomfortable now, but you will be pleased in the end if you allow God to do whatever He wants to do in you.

So many people today start things that they never finish and that is not pleasing to God. In fact, that is not even a good representation of a person who desires to walk in integrity. It is easy to start something because all of our emotions are excited about something new. But, character is seen in what people do when their feelings are no longer supporting them and perhaps they are left alone with just God and a lot of hard work. God's character is to always finish what He starts. What about you? Before you begin anything, count the cost and make the decision that you will finish.

God has promised to finish the work He started in you. Will you make a similar commitment to Him to finish whatever He gives you to do in this life?

**Jeremiah 29:11-13 (KJV)**

<sup>11</sup> For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end.

<sup>12</sup> Then shall ye call upon me, and ye shall go and pray unto me, and I will hearken unto you.

<sup>13</sup> And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.

(Amplified Bible; 2005; The Everyday Life Bible; Joyce Meyers Ministry; Scripture, notes, commentaries; pages 1947 -1948)

(The Word Study Library (wordsearch 9); 2005; KJV; Scripture, notes, commentaries, concise commentaries, dictionary)

**Psa 119:105**

**Thy word [is] a lamp unto  
my feet, and a light unto my path.**



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