

# PHILIPPIANS

c Ministry of the Saviour

## BELIEVERS REJOICE IN SUFFERING

**I** am certain of one thing: The One who started the good work in you will bring it to completion by the Day of Christ Jesus. This is my prayer, that your love may grow even richer and richer in knowledge and insight of every kind, that your love may display itself in greater depth of acquaintance and more comprehensive discernment, and may thus bring you the gift of true discrimination to determine the things most worth while and surely sense what is vital and prize what is excellent and of real value recognizing the highest and the best and distinguishing the moral differences that you may be untainted and pure and unerring and blameless with pure hearts that you may approach the day of Christ without stumbling or causing others to stumble. Then on the day of Christ you will be flawless and without blame, reaping the full harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

I want you to understand and be assured that my imprisonment has helped and not hindered the cause of the gospel. I am a prisoner in service for Christ. The imperial guard knows that I am a prisoner because of Christ.



*I am a prisoner in the service for Christ..*

My brother have derived confidence in the Lord because of my chains and are more bold to speak fearlessly the Word of God acting with freedom and indifference to the consequences. It

***It is a sign of your salvation that you have been granted the privilege of believing in Christ and suffering for him.***

is a sign of your salvation that you have been granted the privilege of believing in Christ and suffering for him.

## Some Preachers have a Party Spirit

**S**ome are preaching Christ for no better reason than out of envy and rivalry and strife or party spirit, others are doing so out of a loyal spirit and goodwill and love of God. Those that preach Christ insincerely without a good motive do so for selfish motives. But the gospel of Christ is being proclaimed and I rejoice in it. Whether preaching comes from one with a wrong motive or from one with a pure heart, I know that through your prayers and a bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ the Messiah, this will turn out to be a blessing to the spiritual health and the saving work of the Gospel.

Let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ so that I may know that you are standing firm, one in the Spirit, one in mind, contending as one man for the gospel faith. If then our common life in Christ yields anything to stir the heart any loving consolation any sharing of the Spirit, any warmth of affection or compassion, fill up my cup of happiness by thing and feeling alike with love for one another in unity.

**inside...**

Christ the believer's pattern, rejoicing in lowly service.  
Christ the believer's object, rejoicing despite imperfections.  
Christ the believer's strength, rejoicing over anxiety.

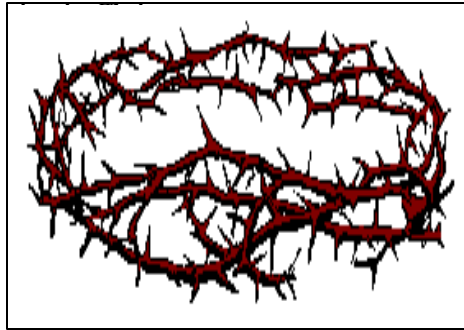
# I LOOK FORWARD TO DEATH

**M**y being in prison has caused others to be bold and confident and even a double anointing of boldness without fear. For this we give thanks daily. I know that through your prayers and a bountiful supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ the Messiah, this will turn out for my preservation of spiritual health

**FOR ME TO LIVE IS  
CHRIST, TO DIE IS GAIN.**

and welfare of my own soul and avail toward the saving work of the Gospel. This is in keeping with my own eager desire and persistent expectation that I shall not be put to shame in anything but that the utmost freedom of speech and unfailing courage, now as in the past, Christ will be magnified and get glory and praise in this body of mine and be boldly exalted in my person whether by life or by

death. For me to live is Christ to live in and through me but to die is gain of the glory of eternity. I am hard pressed to decide what to pray for, my burning desire is to depart this world and be with Christ for that is far far better. But to remain in my body is both needed and essential for the sake of the church. I am convinced of this that I shall remain with you to promote your progress and joy in believing so that your rejoicing may be more abundant and glorify-



**I LOOK FORWARD TO BEING WITH  
THE LORD.**

ened or intimidated in anything your opponents and adversaries, because such constancy and fearlessness will be a clear sign of proof to them of their impending destruction but a sure

**DO NOT FOR A MOMENT  
BE FRIGHTENED OR  
INTIMIDATED...**

token and evidence of your deliverance and salvation and that from God. For you have been granted the privilege for Christ's sake not only to believe and trust in Him but also to suffer in His behalf. This conflict which you are now involved in is the same conflict which you witnessed me wage warfare in when I was with you and am still in. But the Grace of God is exceedingly abundantly able to overcome until the day that we are called up to be with Christ in the glory of his presence. I look forward to being with the Lord.

## PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CITIZENSHIP IN THE KINGDOM

**Y**ou know full well the privileges and the responsibilities of being a Roman citizen. You know full well how even in Philippi, so far from Rome, you must still live and act as a Roman does. Well, remember that you have a higher calling than that. Wherever you are you must live as befits a citizen of the Kingdom of God. You must never forget the privileges and the responsibilities of citizenship in the Kingdom of God. A Christian must ever remember the kingdom of which he is a citizen and conduct himself so.

Stand fast, the world is full of Christians on the retreat and hide their Christianity when things are difficult or at least play down their values. The true Christian stands fast, unashamed in any company. Believers must stand in unity as a band of brothers. Let the world strive and argue, Christians must be one. Never give up the faith, never abandon hope. Never have fear. You are master of the situation through Christ in you.

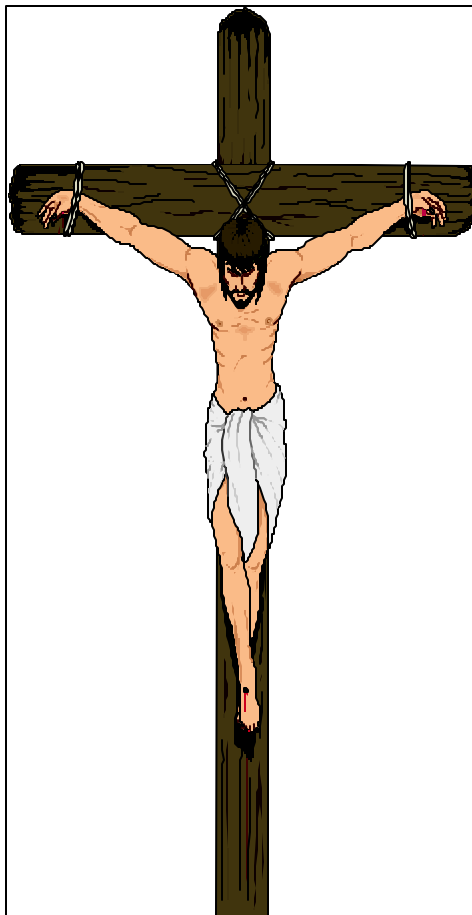
# REJOICE IN HUMBLE SERVICE

**B**y whatever appeal there is in our mutual dwelling in Christ by whatever strengthening and consoling and encouraging our relationship in Him affords, by whatever persuasive incentive there is in love by participation in the Holy Spirit we share and by whatever depth of affection and compassionate sympathy. Make my joy full by living in harmony and being one in mind and purpose having the same love being of one accord and of one mind and intention. Do nothing in strife or selfishness or that leads to unworthy ends but in the true spirit of humility with lowness of mind, look at everyone else as if they were better than you are and superior to yourself. Look not on your own things and feelings and self esteem and your own interest, but be concerned for the interests of others and their well being.

The “koinonia” or fellowship of believers begins with salvation and the giving of the Holy Spirit. We participate in the fellowship with other believers and with the Spirit. Each

***Let this  
mind be in you  
which is in  
Christ Jesus.***

believer’s conscious experience of His indwelling and activity is a starting point to share the oneness of the Spirit with fellow believers in whom they all share by virtue of their salvation and the indwelling of God in



## The Sevenfold Self-humbling of Christ Jesus

**L**et the same attitude and purpose and humble mind be in you which is in Christ. Let him be your example of humility. For our sakes, he became poor. Live in unity and in harmony, to lay aside discord as well as selfish personal ambitions, pride, and desire for prominence and humble yourselves in your heart with selfless desire to serve. For Jesus who did not need to grasp at being equal with God because He had it as a right! He laid it down willingly for the sake of men. he made a personal sacrifice in the incarnation

their life. Such membership requires their keeping the bond of unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. This is the basis for Christian unity. It is our duty to desire a reformation in personal relationships so that undesirable traits will be removed and unity and love will prevail.

Humility before God leads to hu-

***...Carried His obedience  
to the extreme of death,  
even death on a cruel,  
painful cross as a blood  
sacrifice so man could be  
saved.***

mility towards men. Do not be self centered that you miss the noble traits to be seen in others. Christ is the supreme example.

to empty himself of the glory of his divinity. he emptied himself of his deity in order to take on his humanity. He took on the form of a servant—a slave, not to act like a man but to be a real man. After he had appeared in human form, He humbled Himself and carried His obedience to the extreme of death, even death of the cruel, painful cross as a blood sacrifice for the sins of men that they could be saved.

# JESUS EXALTED BY GOD

**J**ESUS who humbled himself and was obedient unto death on the cross has been highly exalted by God and Jesus is a name above all names. At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow in heaven and in earth. Every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the father.

***Every tongue shall confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the father.***

The day will come when men will call Jesus Christ Lord, and they will do so to the glory of God the Father. All of the work of Jesus in all of his earthly life was to glorify God the

Father. Jesus never tried to bring glory to himself but to the Father who reigns in ultimate supremacy. Jesus draws men to him that he may bring them close to God. It was always the aim of Jesus to focus men's eyes toward God. It then follows that we believers should constantly focus not on self as we follow Christ but we must think of others and not to our own glory but to the glory of God.

The throne of Jesus is not a rival to God the Father, but his lordship is based on the sovereignty and all powerful will and intention of the Father who purposed to restore man to himself in Christ so that he could fellowship with man who had been cleansed of all sin and unrighteousness by His grace and the atonement of Jesus Christ.

There is a day coming that angels, men and even demons will join to proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord.

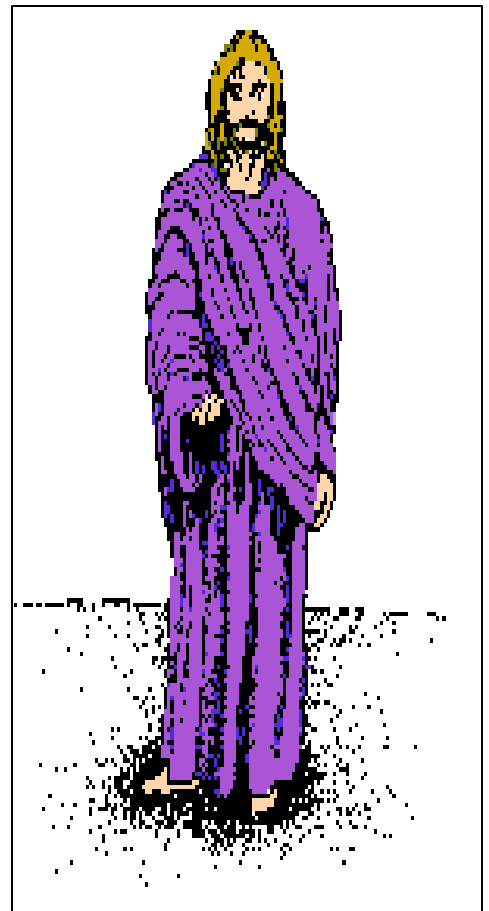
Praise God for that day!

***There is a day coming that angels, men, and even demons will join to proclaim that Jesus Christ is Lord. Praise God for that day!***

## AN OUTWARD VIEW OF THE INNER WORKINGS OF SALVATION

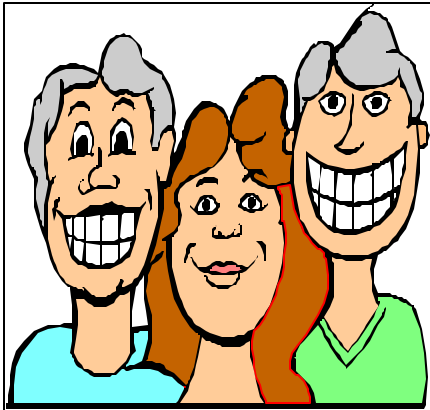
**C**ultivate and carry out your goals and fully complete your salvation with great enthusiasm and reverence and awe and with serious caution being watchful against temptation, timidly shrinking from whatever might offend God and discredit the name of Christ. It is not to be thought that I have already achieved all this. I have not yet reached perfection, but I press on hoping to take hold of that because of what Christ did for me. All that I have to say is: Forgetting what is behind me, and reaching out for that

which lies ahead, I press toward the goal to win the prize which is God's call to the life above, in Christ Jesus. Let our conduct be equal with the level that we have already reached. Day by day, your life must be more completely perfected. What God offers, man must take. It is never God who withholds salvation, it is always man who robs himself of it. The Christian life is a journey towards God getting closer every day!



# REJOICE IN THE LORD

**P**aul points out two things about the joy of a believer. The indestructibility of Christian joy. Even in the face of persecution, and possible death, there is an indestructible joy in the heart of the believer. In John 16, Jesus said, "Your joy no man taketh away from you." That is because your joy is in



the Lord. The basis for joy is in the continual presence and company of Jesus in the life of the believer. We can lose all of our things and all of our family or friends, but we can never lose Jesus. I have joy because all of the threats, problems, and discomforts put together can not separate us from the love of God.

The great saving truths of Christianity do not change. We cannot hear them too often. If you eat bread and drink water every day, then you must also feed your spirit every day that you grow in the things of God. People want new and unheard of ideas at every turn, but you are saved by God's grace through faith the same as all other believers were saved and all future believers will be saved until the return of Jesus.

Paul is saying that he had everything that the world wants, power, pres-

tige, family name, wealth, and all that goes with the things of this world but the things that were gain, are counted as loss for Christ. It is better to be in Christ and in his will than to have all of the things of this world and all of the wealth and fleshly desires that one can dream of. He said that he had those things and lost them for the cause of Christ. Not only was he not sad about it, he was in joy that he had found the one real and true treasure of a great price which is the knowledge of Jesus Christ. Without Christ, one is very poor. With Him, you have the greatest treasure that one can have in this world and lifetime. If you have Christ, what more is there and what greater thing can you have than eternal salvation?

There is nothing to have pride about in things or in the keeping of the law, these were a total loss. Paul is saying that he tried to find righteousness

## Beware of evil workers teaching wrong ideas to mislead true believers

**B**eware of the dogs! In the middle east at the time of Paul, dogs were wild, feeding on refuse and filth of the streets and without owners. The Bible uses the word dogs to describe the non-believer and in the Jewish mind, nothing could be lower. This idea is strange to a culture that loves and cares for its pets. Paul is saying to take care not to be fooled by evil teachers that do not worship God in Spirit and in truth. Jewish teachers were teaching that salvation is by the keeping of the law while Paul was

or a right relationship with God but could never on his ability build up a goodness good enough. Then he gave that up and came to God in humble faith and found that fellowship that he had searched for for so long and had never found. A right relationship with God is not based on law but on faith in Jesus. It is not earned by man but is given by God.

***Rejoice in the Lord...  
Worship God in the  
Spirit...  
What things were gain to  
me I counted but loss for  
Christ.***

teaching that salvation is available and free to everyone who believes in Christ by the grace of God. Jews taught the keeping of laws. Paul taught that the only righteousness comes by casting yourself freely upon the grace of God. The other thing was circumcision which was necessary for the Jewish law. Paul taught that the truly circumcised are believers with an inner spiritual circumcision. Christian worship is a thing of the Spirit.

# I PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL

**U**nderstanding that all of my keeping of the law and self achieved righteousness that can be called my own, based on my obedience to the law and ritualistic uprightness is rubbish, I possess the genuine righteousness which comes through faith in Christ, the Anointed One the true right standing with God

***I press on to win the prize of prizes, which is Jesus calling us up to be with Him.***

which come from God by faith. My purpose is that I may know Him and that I may progressively become more deeply and intimately acquainted with Him recognizing and understanding the wonders of His person more strongly and more

clearly. And that I may in the same way come to know the power outflowing from His resurrection that I may share His sufferings so that I can be continually transformed in spirit into His likeness even to His death that if possible I may attain spiritual

dead. I have not attained this ideal but I press on to grasp for that which Jesus has laid hold of me and made me His own.

Forget the past and strain forward for what is in the future. I press on toward the goal to win the prize



**Brethren, together follow my example and live after the pattern we have set**

of prizes which is Jesus calling us up to be with him.

**R**epent if you cannot say to new believers as Paul did, “follow my example.” The time has come for believers to grow up, mature, and be full grown spiritually and have the mind of Christ in us. The time has come for believers to stand up for the convictions of your heart which you have learned by the Holy Spirit teaching you as you have studied the word of God! The time has come for believers to speak up and be heard that you are God’s army and you are not letting Satan step on you . The time has come to walk

true to your confession, hold on to what you have and order your life by it. Gambling is legal because you have sided with earthly things. Abortion is legal because you have sided with this world. Christians who follow the lusts of the flesh have made themselves enemies of the cross. But I am a citizen of Heaven lifting my banner and taking my stand until Jesus Christ calls me home.

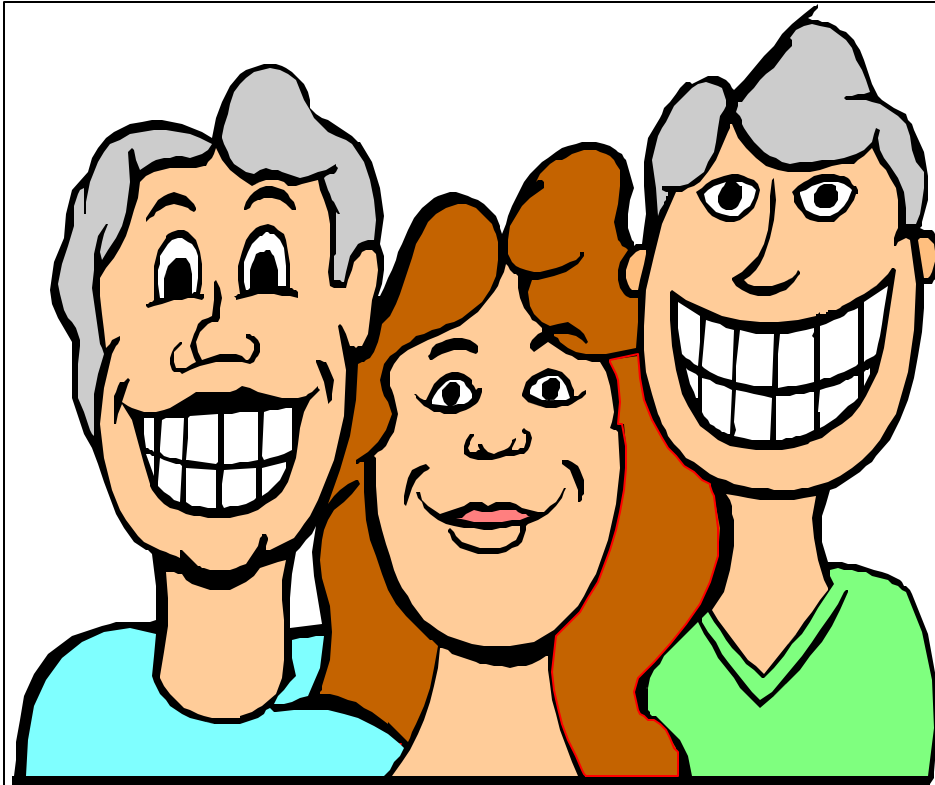
***As a citizen of Heaven, do I set an example so that I can say as Paul did, “Follow my example” to help you be fully grown up spiritually and have the mind of Christ in you?***

# REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS

**R**ejoice in the Lord always. Hey, I'm in prison. Let me say it again. Rejoice! I know

pens in your life and in every need, let your request be known to God. When you do, the peace of God

which surpasses all human understanding will keep guard over your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus. We can take everything to God in prayer. In everything we are to make prayer and supplication with thanksgiving. There is nothing too great for God' power and nothing too little for his love and care. We can ask for forgiveness, help and direction. God can give all three.



*Have no anxiety but in everything let your requests be known to God....  
The peace of God...*

what I am saying, I have Jesus in my heart and I rejoice. My joy is independent of all things on earth because my source is the continual presence of Jesus in my heart.. I cannot lose my joy because I cannot lose Jesus who indwells me and by whose blood I was made pure to be adopted into the family of God! Let your patience, softness, modesty, gentleness, and forbearance be known to all people. Why should man be like this? Life is short and when the end comes, we have joy knowing that we will be with Jesus and we wish to deal with men in love as we hope God will deal with us. May God grant me mercy not justice.

The Lord is near, do not worry about anything. But in everything that hap-

## Cure for Anxiety –Prayer

**B**eing anxious indicates that you think that you have a problem. If you have a problem, then is it because you do not think that God is able to handle your problem or is it that you do not trust him to handle your problem in the best of possible ways? You do not have to have anxiety in any situation because you can pray about everything and let God know what you want to do and remember to give thanks because He is not going to start helping you tomorrow, He has already been helping you and that should give you

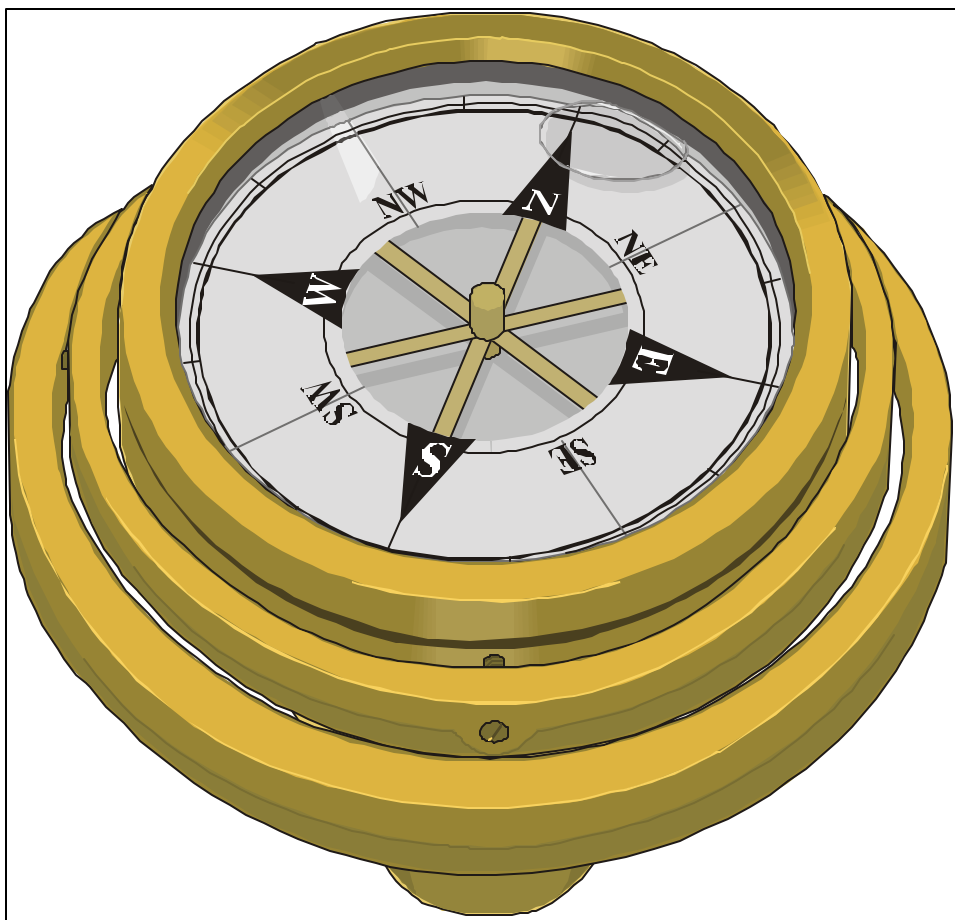
courage and faith to know that he is not going to let you down now either. God was in control when he created creation, he is in control today and if you wake up tomorrow, it will be in world where God is in control. If you don't wake up, you will find that He is in control there, too. Enjoy your peace of mind because it is just one more of the gifts of God. You as a believer know and have a relationship with the all powerful God.

# FIX YOUR MIND ON THE PURE

**W**hatever is true, whatever is worthy of reverence and is honorable and seemly, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely and lovable, whatever is kind and winsome and gracious, if there is any virtue and excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think on and weigh and take account of these things and fix your mind on them.

**YOU MUST LOOK TO  
THE THINGS OF GOD...  
YOUR COMPASS TO  
SHAPE YOUR ACTIONS  
AND CONDUCT...**

Practice what you have learned and received and have seen in me as my life was a model for you to



## I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST WHO STRENGTHENS ME!

**P**aul could have nothing, he could have everything, it made no difference, because in any situation he had Jesus Christ. The person who lives in Christ can cope with anything.

Paul had found that the way to have strength was to be weak but with the boundless confidence in the ability of Christ to match and take care of every situation with strength and more than enough strength for everything. God's power is made perfect in our weakness because we can handle so few things but the power

of God working through our weakness can do wonders. It brought Paul to say that I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

Right now pray that God will help you to keep your mind on the things of heaven and not the things of this world and in your weakness, He shall supply all of your needs and all of the power to overcome the problems of the day so that your compass always points in a Godly direction and your walk follows and your mind is fixed on Him.

follow. You must look upon the things of God to arrive at your actions and not follow the ways of the world because they lead to destruction. Guard your mind and do not let evil slip in with you being unaware. Keep your mind from away from things of a sinful nature. Reflect upon the things of God and allow only those things to shape your actions and conduct.