

The Book of Philippians Speaks to Christian Men about Giving and Service

Week One

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Date:

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Introduction:

2Corinthians 9:7 Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, *so let him give*; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver.

Author: Paul Timing: 65-70AD Audience: The believers at the Church of Philippi

The book of Philippians was written for several reasons. First Paul wanted to express in writing his thanks for the Philippians gifts and unselfish giving. Second, he wanted the Philippians to know why he decided to return Epaphroditus to them, so they would not think his service to Paul had been unsatisfactory. Third, he wanted to inform them about his circumstances at Rome. Forth, he wrote to exhort them to unity. Finally, he wrote to warn them against false teachings.

The underlying theme of the book is the proper motivation for service and giving. Namely a pure heart, a kingdom mentality, and an altruistic view of helping others.

Introduction

1. Where was/is Philippi

2. Who founded the church at Philippi?

3. During which one of his Missionary Journeys was the Church at Philippi founded?

4. When was the church at Philippi founded?

5. What timeframe was the writing of the book of Philippi

6. Who was the intended audience of book of Philippi.

7. What was the economy like and modes of trade, travel etc. at the time of the writing of the book Philippi?

8. What was going on in the Christian faith at the time and in the area?

9. What is the area like today and what is the name of the Country/City?

Summary:

This introduction to the book of Philippians is intended to set the stage for the discussion of service and giving. What is it in today's world that makes this so difficult? Answering this question is the first step to a more Christ-like life.

Thank you for attending,

Pat Turner