

- Author: The Apostle Paul
- Recipients: The Church at Philippi
  - First church in Europe, in the region of Macedonia in northern Greece
  - Founded by Paul on his second Missionary Journey, AD 51
  - Predominantly Gentile, with many prominent women
  - Very generous in their partnership with Paul through financial support

## Background to Philippians



## Paul's Second Missionary Journey (Acts 16)

- Time and Place of Writing: Most likely during Paul's imprisonment in Rome, AD 61 or 62
- Occasion (Reason for writing): Paul had several purposes in writing this letter, though no one issue seems to have reached the critical point such as the need to correct errors in Galatians or Corinthians
  - To thank the Philippians for their sacrificial giving in support of his ministry
  - To send Epaphroditus back to encourage them that God spared him (Phil 2:25-30)
  - To warn them about the possibility of influence from the Judaizers (Phil 3:1-3)
  - To gently rebuke them for allowing a spirit of disunity (Phil 4:2-3)
  - To exalt Christ (Phil 2:5-11)

## Background to Philippians

- I. Opening 1:1-11
  - A. Salutation 1:1-2
  - B. Thanksgiving 1:3-8
  - C. Prayer 1:9-11
- II. Paul's Missionary Report 1:12-26
  - A. Paul's Circumstances 1:12-17
  - B. Paul's Attitude 1:18-26
- III. A Call to Sanctification 1:27-2:30
  - A. Christian Citizenship 1:27-2:4
  - B. Christian Humility 2:5-11
  - C. Christian Obedience 2:12-18
- IV. Doctrinal Polemics 3:1-4:1
  - A. Judaizers as the Context for Theology 3:1-6
  - B. The Essence of Pauline Theology 3:7-11
  - C. Practical Theology 3:12-4:1
- V. Final Concerns 4:2-23
  - A. Exhortations 4:2-9
  - B. A Word of Thanks 4:10-20
  - C. Closing 4:21-23

## Outline of Philippians