

*Study Questions: Lesson 8*

*14. Philippians: Joy in Unity*

**First please read chapter 14 in the text.**

**RESPONSE**

**Historical Background**

1. Summarize the historical background of the city of Philippi.

**The Church at Philippi**

2. How was the church at Philippi established?

**Why Written**

3. Why did Paul have a special relationship with the church at Philippi?
4. What is an important theme of Philippians? Explain your answer.

**Joy in Unity - Ch. 2**

5. a. Read Philippians 2:5-11 several times. In your own words, summarize what this says about Jesus.  
b. What does this mean to you personally?

**MAKING IT PERSONAL**

6. Would you consider yourself a “happy” person? If not, why not?

*15. Colossians: Complete in Christ*

**First please read chapter 15 in the text.**

**RESPONSE**

**Why Written**

7. Why was *The Epistle to the Colossians* written?

**Pre-eminence of Christ - Ch. 1**

8. Read Colossians 1:11-27 several times. How are the riches of God’s glory displayed according to Colossians 1:27?

**The Deity of Christ in Colossians**

9. What does *Colossians* say about the deity of Christ?

“Copyright 2000 Chapel Library. Write for more than 800 titles from the Puritans, Spurgeon, Ryle, Bonar, Pink, etc. sent free in North America; and visit the website for free downloads and eBooks: [www.chapellibrary.org](http://www.chapellibrary.org); Chapel Library; 2603 West Wright St.; Pensacola, Florida 32505.”

## Lesson 8      **Philippians and Colossians**

### *Chapter 14 - Philippians: Joy in Unity*

1. The city of Philippi was established on a main Roman road, connecting it to the important trade routes of the East. It was named after Philip II (the father of Alexander the Great), when he became king of Macedonia by force in 359 BC. In 42 BC, the historic battle of Philippi took place between Romans Brutus and Cassius, who allied themselves against Antony and Octavian, avengers of the death of Julius Caesar. In 31 BC Octavian defeated his former ally, Antony, in a historic naval battle. As a Roman colony, Philippi enjoyed all the special privileges of Roman citizens everywhere.
2. During his Second Missionary Journey (AD 50-54), Paul, accompanied by Silas and Timothy, had a vision in the night (Acts 16:9) to preach the gospel in Macedonia (Acts 16). In obedience, Paul traveled to Philippi. Along the river bank was a place of prayer, where a woman named Lydia and others gathered. As Paul preached the gospel, the Lord opened the heart of Lydia. She opened her home to others so that a new church could be established.
3. Those who came to faith under Paul's ministry in Philippi appreciated his labors of love. To show their appreciation, they sent Paul needed money: twice while in Thessalonica (Phil. 4:16), and again when he was at Corinth (2 Cor. 11:9).
4. Joy! Paul will exhort the believers to "rejoice in the Lord!" The theme is joy because "joy" is used often, and it is returned to as a topic in several places.
5. a. Jesus voluntarily humbled Himself as a servant, setting us the great example. He was obedient to the will of the Father even unto death at the cross. Because of this, God has highly exalted Him, that at the name of Jesus every knee everywhere shall bow to honor Him as Lord.  
b. Personal answer.

### *Chapter 15 - Colossians: Complete in Christ*

7. The motive for the writing of the letter to the Colossians was concern about Jewish teachers trying to mingle the works of the Law with the grace of the gospel (2:11, 16). The Judaizers had found fertile soil in Colossae. With the demand to observe the ceremonial law, stress was being laid on the importance of observing special days, such as the Sabbath, the new moon, and the feast day. Rules and regulations had been imposed on drinks and food. Once more the all-sufficiency of Christ for salvation was being undermined with a subtle appeal to the flesh: to earn God's favor (already granted based entirely on the merit of Christ) through good works.
8. God's glory is displayed via Christ being found in the hearts of Christians.
9. He is declared to be: 1) The Image of the invisible God, 2) The First-born of all creation, 3) All things are created through Him, 4) He is before all things, 5) In Him all things consist (i.e., hold together), 6) Head of the body, the Church, 7) The Beginning, 8) The First-born from the dead, 9) In Him all fullness dwells, 10) Through Him all things are reconciled, 11) Christ in you is the hope of glory, 12) In Him are all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, 13) In Him dwells all the fullness of Godhead bodily, 14) In Him you are complete (lit. brought to perfection), 15) The head of all principality and power.