

BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH OF ERIE

SERMON OUTLINE

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#-2 Series: Philippians – “Christ-The Believers Joy”

Today’s Message:

“I AM SO THANKFUL FOR YOU”

Philippians 1:3-8

V-3 Gratitude should be the essence of the Christian life. Being grateful and thankful should permeate every aspect of our being. I believe in the truth and principle of **1 Thes. 5:18** which says; *“In everything give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.”*

Now as we continue our journey through the Book of Joy which is what the Book of Philippians is all about. Paul was so thankful for this wonderful ideal church and so he begins with his heart and mind filled with thanksgiving. And so, we first of all see that he was...

I. Thankful – For Their FELLOWSHIP in the Gospel

- A. We see how he ministered to them in vs. 3-4**
- 1. Remembering Them Personally V-3**
 - 2. Remembering Them Prayerfully V-4**

"Always"—Paul remembered the Philippians in prayer with **PERSISTENCE**

"Making request"—Paul remembered the Philippians in prayer with **PETITIONS**

"With joy"—Paul remembered his Philippian friends in prayer with **PLEASURE**

B. Then- How They Ministered to Him V-5

His fellowship with Lydia and the jailer and all the other Christians at Philippi had continued ever since. It was just as prompt, just as practical, and just as priceless now as at the beginning.

Secondly, he was . . .

II. Thankful – For Their FAITHFULNESS in the Gospel V-6

A. The Work Had Been Commenced in Them V-6a.

As we study the Scripture we find three phases to the work of God in a Christian's life. They are:

1. **Salvation**—The work God does **for us**.
2. **Sanctification**—The work God does **in us**.
3. **Service**—The work God does **through us**.

B. The Work Would Be Completed in Them V-6b

The word **perform** means **to, "bring to an end, accomplish, perfect, execute, or complete."** The Bible teaches that those who are truly saved **shall never perish**.

Thirdly He was . . .

III. Thankful – For Their FEARLESSNESS of the Gospel V-7

A. They were not Afraid of His Chains v-7a

B. They Were Not Afraid of His Charge v-7b

Lastly, he we see . . .

IV. Thankful – For Their FRIENDSHIP in the Gospel V-8

"Bowels" is used as a metaphor for one's deepest inner affections. The Greek word translated "bowels" means "the seat of tenderness, the seat of emotion." It had nothing to do with anatomy. It speaks of genuine love and deep compassion.

Paul was not indulging in self-pity or mere sentiment. His longings went much deeper. The wellsprings of Paul's emotions were in Christ. His heart beat in rhythm with the heart of Jesus. And he claimed God was his witness.