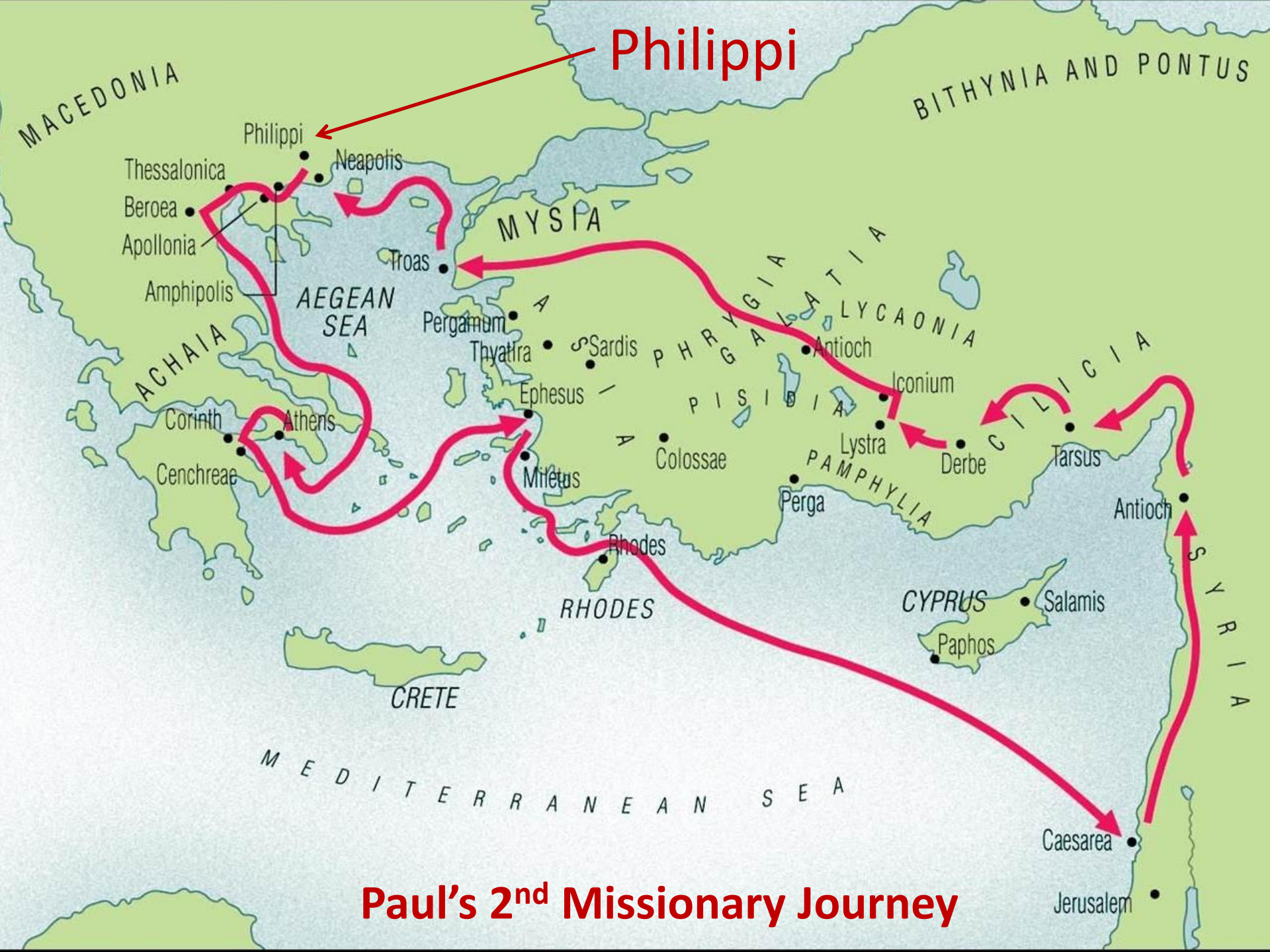




PHILIPPIANS 1-4

New Series of Messages

Philippi



Paul's 2nd Missionary Journey

Paul's Epistle to THE PHILIPPIANS...

- This letter was written by Paul from Rome, in 61AD, while under house arrest there for 2 years (Acts 28).
- Philippians mentions “joy” & “gladness” & “rejoice” many times – despite suffering & persecution!
- Christian JOY is not dependent on circumstances, but on Jesus and our life & relationship with Him...
- Some of the early believers there were: Lydia & her household, the healed slave-girl, the jailer & his family.



PHILIPPIANS
Chapter 1
Quick Review



G R A C E



P E A C E

1:1-2 God's Grace and Peace is meant for all Believers



1:3-6 God will complete the work He began in our life

1:7-8 Paul loved the Philippians deeply...

→ Do I love this way?





1:9-11 True Love grows in Knowledge & Fruitfulness



1:12-14 God used Trials in Paul's
life to advance the Gospel...
He wants to do the same with us!

1:15-18 Paul rejoiced that Jesus was being preached, even by insincere greedy rivals... What is my attitude?



1:19-20 We should find our Strength
in the Holy Spirit & Prayer...



1:21-26 To Live is Christ... & to Die with Christ is gain!



1:27-30 Let's live our lives in Unity
in a manner Worthy of the Gospel,
Believing and Suffering with Christ...





PHILIPPIANS
Chapter 2

Four STARS for us to imitate in Philippians chapter 2

1. Christ – perfect Humility & Sacrifice

2. Paul – a life Offered to God

3. Timothy – a Faithful Son & Servant

4. Epaphroditus – a Fellow Soldier & Worker

Philippians 2 – another outline

2:1-4 Unity and Fellowship : Vertical → Horizontal

2:5-11 Become Like Jesus and Imitate His Attitude!

2:12-18 Shine like a Star in the dark Universe!

2:19-30 Timothy & Epaphroditus: 2 Great Examples!



2:1-4 Unity and Fellowship : Vertical → Horizontal

- Are you United with **Christ**?
(Comforted by His Love...)
- Do you have Fellowship with the **Spirit**? (Tenderness+Compassion)



➔ Unity with **Fellow Believers!** (...be like-minded... have the same love... be united in spirit & purpose... not selfish ambition, nor vain conceit, but humble, putting others' interests above our own ones...)

➔ This will result in our JOY being completed:
For ourselves & for others in our lives...

// John Piper's "Christian Hedonism" message:

➔ Following Christ brings us the greatest JOY!

2:5-11 Become Like Jesus and Imitate His Attitude!



- One of the greatest **Doxologies** in the Bible, and it is meant for a practical pastoral purpose!
- Yes, it should inspire our **hearts** to worship, but especially should inspire our **lives** to change!

Seven steps of Humility that Jesus willingly took:

1. Didn't grasp or hold on to his rightful position
2. Made himself nothing
3. Took on the nature of a servant
4. Became a human being
5. Humbled himself
6. Obedient till death
7. Even death on a cross



Therefore God exalted Christ sevenfold:

1. God exalted Jesus to the highest place
2. Gave him the Name above every name
3. At the Name of Jesus every knee will bow
4. Everyone in Heaven will acknowledge Him
5. Everyone on Earth will acknowledge Him
6. Everyone under the Earth will acknowledge Him
7. Every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord
➔ to the glory of God the Father



→ Does MY LIFE display the humility and sacrifice and love of Christ?

→ When others see MY LIFE, are they attracted to the example of Jesus?



I like your Christ, I do not like your Christians.

Your Christians are so unlike your Christ.

~Mahatma Gandhi



2:12-18 Shine like a Star in the dark Universe!



- Obey God's Word: whether in public or in private...
- Work out your Salvation with fear and reverence & God works in you to will & to act His good purpose
= Human Responsibility & Divine Sovereignty:
= 2 sides of the same reality... // 2 sides of a coin...
- Shine as Children of God, blameless and pure
// as a Star whose light shines in the dark universe
- Holding out God's Word of life:
→ Lasting results... Don't run or labour in vain...
- Paul & the Philippians' Christian life
= like an Offering and a Sacrifice...
→ Gladness and
→ Rejoicing ! ! !



2:19-30 Timothy & Epaphroditus: 2 Great Examples!



TIMOTHY:

1. Cheered people up
2. Took a genuine interest in their welfare
3. Looked for the interests of Christ above his own
4. Proved himself as a son with his father
5. Served in the work of the gospel

→ Is this what I am like also?



EPAPHRODITUS :

1. Paul called him: My Brother, Fellow Worker, Fellow Soldier, a Reliable Messenger...
2. He was faithful in severe sickness, he almost died for the work of Christ...
3. Brought gladness & joy to those he visited & left behind...

→ Is this what my life looks like too?



Four STARS for us to imitate in Philippians chapter 2

1. Christ – perfect Humility & Sacrifice

2. Paul – a life Offered to God

3. Timothy – a Faithful Son & Servant

4. Epaphroditus – a Fellow Soldier & Worker

**Shine like the bright STAR
God means you to be!**

