

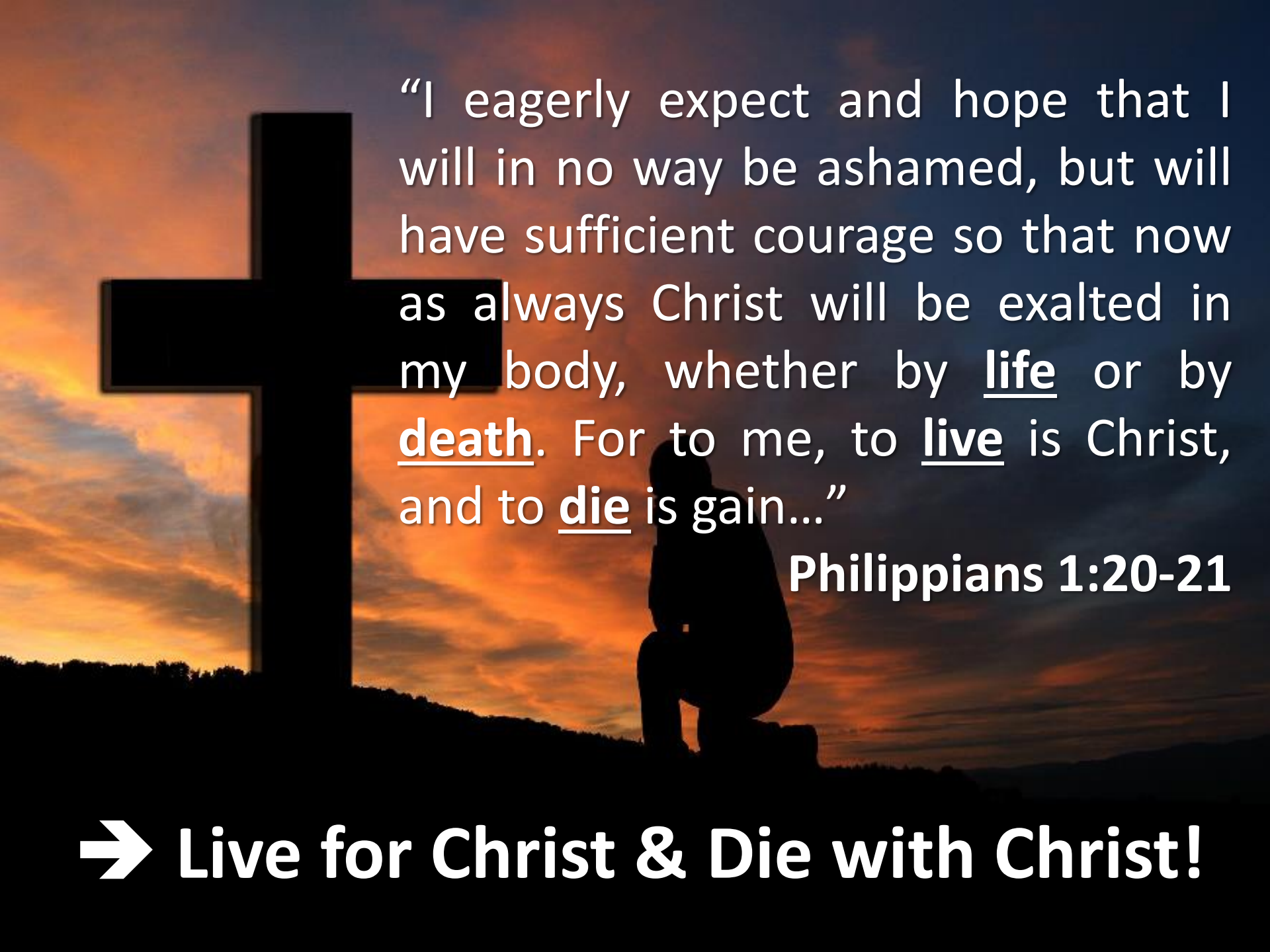
# **PHILIPPIANS chs. 1-4**



**A Series of Four Studies**

**PHILIPPIANS**  
**Chapter 1**  
**KEY VERSES**





“I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain...”

**Philippians 1:20-21**

**➔ Live for Christ & Die with Christ!**

**PHILIPPIANS**  
**Chapter 2**  
**KEY VERSES**



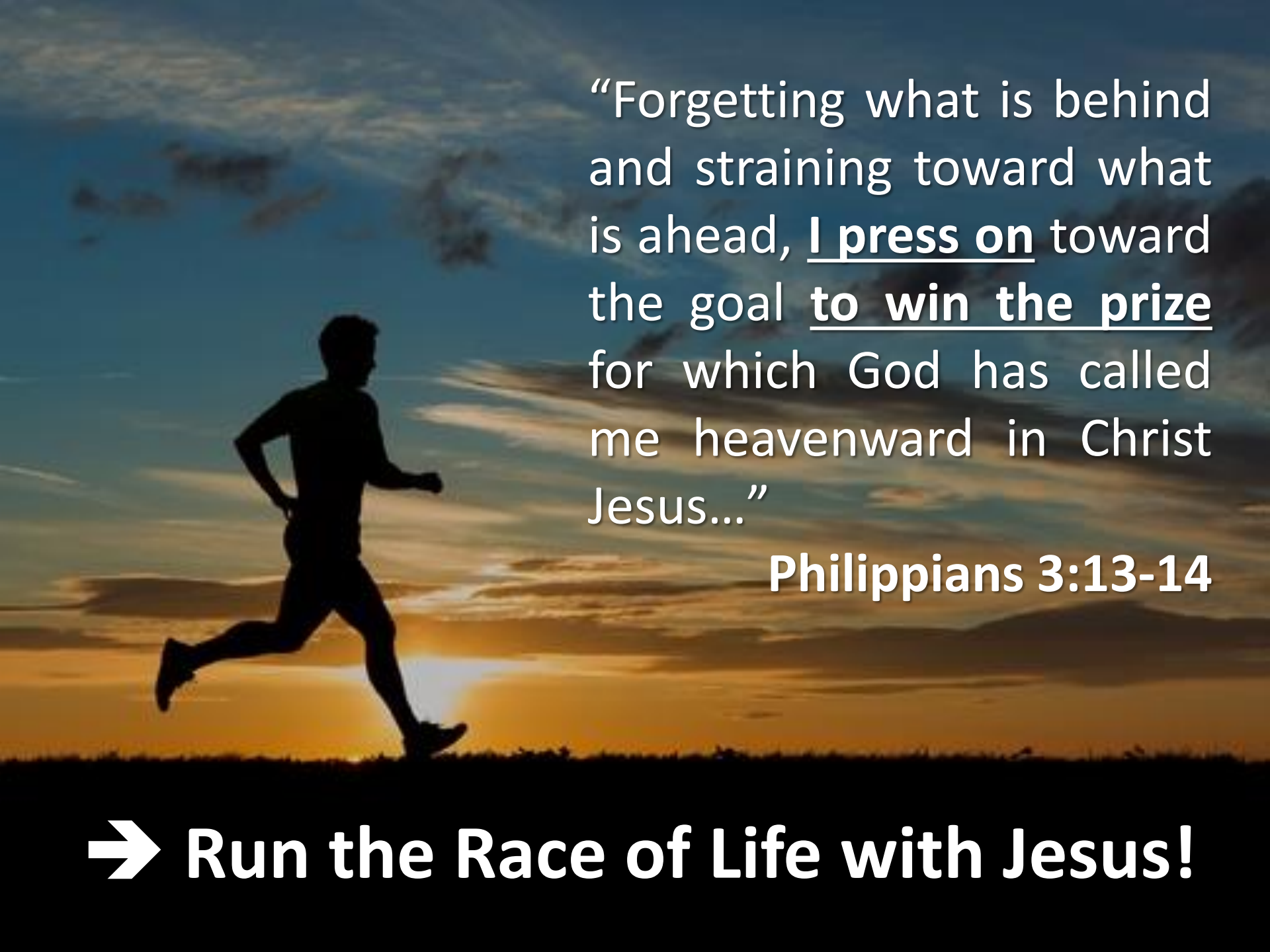
“...in humility consider others better than yourselves. Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others. Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus...”

**Philippians 2:3-5**

**➔ Follow the Example of Love and Humility of Jesus Christ!**

**PHILIPPIANS**  
**Chapter 3**  
**KEY VERSES**



A silhouette of a person running is shown on the left side of the image, set against a background of a sunset or sunrise sky with soft clouds. The runner is in mid-stride, moving towards the right. The sky transitions from a deep blue at the top to a warm orange and yellow near the horizon.

“Forgetting what is behind  
and straining toward what  
is ahead, I press on toward  
the goal to win the prize  
for which God has called  
me heavenward in Christ  
Jesus...”

**Philippians 3:13-14**

**➔ Run the Race of Life with Jesus!**



**PHILIPPIANS**  
**Chapter 4**



# PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 4

## 4:1-9 Work Together for the Gospel!

(A) Stand Firm & United **4:1-3**

(B) Rejoice in the Lord & Pray **4:4-7**

(C) Think about & Follow the Best **4:8-9**

## 4:10-23 Be Content & Give Generously!

(D) Paul's Example - Grateful Contentment **4:11-13**

(E) The Philippians - Generous Givers **4:10, 14-20**

(F) Final Greetings **4:21-23**

**WORK TOGETHER FOR THE GOSPEL!**



# (A) Stand Firm & United 4:1-3





## (A) Stand Firm & United 4:1-3

We are “Brothers”, “Loved”, “Longed for”, “his Joy”, “my Crown” ... of **Paul** ... → also of **Jesus Christ!**

“This is how we should **stand firm** in the Lord...”

→ In the light of our hope: heaven & transformation

Two Women: “You-Odious” ☹️ & “Soon-Touchy” ☹️

→ Learn to **agree with each** other in the Lord...

“Euodia & Syntyche” and Paul’s “Yoke-Fellow” and “Clement” and the rest of Paul’s “Fellow-Workers”...

→ We **all need Help** to work together in **harmony!**

→ Be willing to Give help and to Receive help...

Our names are in the **Book of Life** // → **Luke 10:20**

“...rejoice because your names are written in heaven”!

# (B) Rejoice in the Lord & Pray 4:4-7





## (B) Rejoice in the Lord & Pray 4:4-7

// **3:1** “Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord!”

→ “Joy” → “Rejoice” → “Rejoice always” → “Again I say Rejoice” ... → Is my life characterised by **Joy & Rejoicing** ?!

“Rejoice **in** the Lord” **because** “the Lord is near” (constant) ... not in our circumstances (which are variable)...

“Be **Gentle** to all” → in encouraging them to rejoice, and helping them to work together in harmony.

In anything & everything: **NO** to Anxiety & **YES** to Prayer:  
→ Our prayers to include both Thanksgiving and Requests!

**God’s Promise:** IF we pray about all these things: → The Peace of God will guard our hearts & minds in Christ Jesus.

# (C) Think about & Follow the Best 4:8-9

WHERE ARE YOUR THOUGHTS  
COMING FROM?





# Think about & Follow the Best 4:8-9

I should **Fill my Thoughts** with what is true, noble, right, pure, lovely, admirable, excellent, praiseworthy...

- With what **words & images** do I feed my thought life?
- Music? Films? DVDs? Conversations? Internet viewing?

I need to Follow the **Good Examples** in my life!

- What we've "learned", "received", "heard", "seen" ...
- Be a Good **Teacher** – worthy of being imitated
- Be a Discerning **Disciple** – careful who we follow

**God's Promise** → and the God of Peace will be with you...



**BE CONTENT & GIVE GENEROUSLY!**



# (D) Paul = Grateful Contentment 4:11-13



## Satisfied

Discovering Contentment  
in a World of Consumption



# Paul = Grateful Contentment 4:11-13

Paul had learned to **Be Content** whatever his circumstances were: whether in Need or in Plenty...

**1 Timothy 6:6-8** “godliness with **contentment** is great gain, ... But if we have food and clothing, we will be content...”

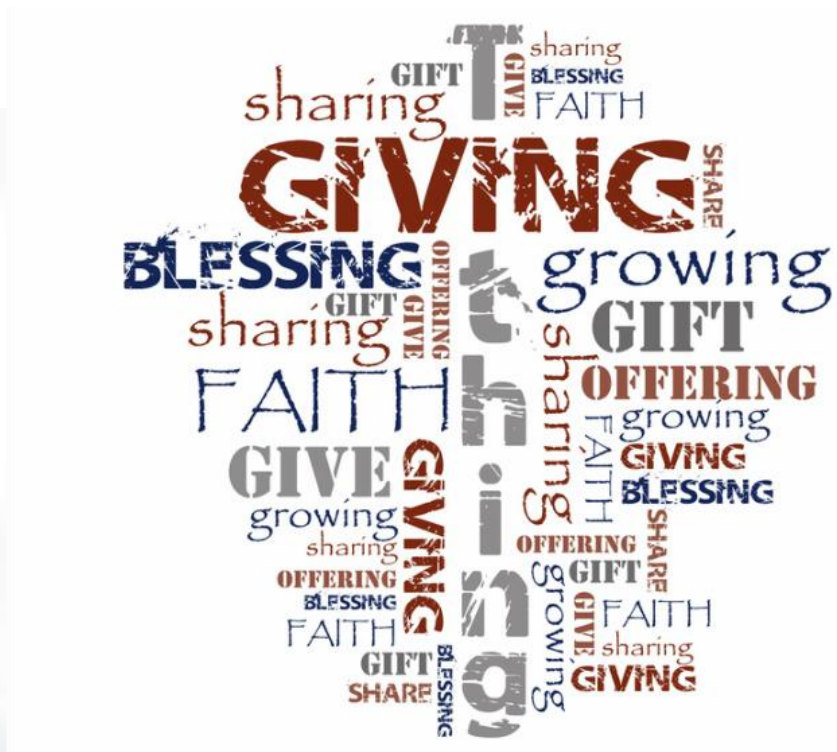
Paul knew how to enjoy life having **plenty** or having **little**...

→ He had a **Joyful** and **Thankful** attitude of heart

→ What is my Heart like? → **Complaining** or **Contented**?

Paul said “I can do **everything** through **Him** who gives me strength...” → We can also live this way for the Lord!

# (E) Philippians Generous Givers 4:10, 14-20





# Philippians Generous Givers 4:10, 14-20

The Philippians had Concern for the Lord's workers...

They shared in Paul's troubles...

→ Three ways to do this: **Prayer & Support & Visits...**

From the **beginning** they shared with Paul in "Giving and Receiving" → They sent him aid "**again & again**" ...

Paul says that their **Generous Giving** was "Credited to your Account... a Fragrant Offering... an Acceptable Sacrifice... Pleasing to God..." // "make treasure in heaven" **Mat 6:20**

**God's Promise:** He would meet all the Philippians' needs "according to God's glorious riches in Christ Jesus" !!

# (F) Final Greetings 4:21-23





## (F) Final Greetings 4:21-23

Greetings TO & FROM:

- “**saints** in Christ Jesus”
- “**brothers...**”

→ How do I see my fellow believers?

“Those who belong to **Caesar’s Household...**”

→ Tricky position to be in...

→ We too are in the world, but not of it...

“The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you...”

→ God’s **Amazing Grace** is for us too...



# PHILIPPIANS

## Chapter 4

**→ SO WHAT ?**



# PHILIPPIANS Ch. 4 – Practical Conclusions



- At Grace & Truth, let us also **Work & Pray Together** – **United** for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!



- Let us **Rejoice in our Relationship** with the Lord every day – Whatever the circumstances of life.



- Personally, let us fill our **Minds** with the **Best**, and follow the very **Best Examples** in our lives.



- Let's learn the **Secret of Contentment** in life! To **Rejoice** in Plenty or in Little – To live “light”.



- Let us continue to **Share Generously** and **Give Sacrificially** to the needy and to further the Gospel.