

Apostle Paul Epistles Doctrine Book Of Philippians



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Paul's explanations in his epistles are crucial for us today because they lay the **doctrinal foundation of the Christian faith** and provide **practical instructions for daily living**. Here's why his teachings remain relevant:

1. They Explain the Gospel of Grace

Paul's epistles emphasize **justification by faith** (Romans 3:28, Galatians 2:16) and the **sufficiency of Christ's sacrifice** (Colossians 2:13-14). This message is essential in a world where many still seek salvation through works or religious rituals.

2. They Teach How to Live as Christians

Paul provides guidance on:

- **Sanctification** – Living a holy life (1 Thessalonians 4:3-4)
- **Love and Unity** – Bearing with one another in love (Ephesians 4:2-3)
- **Spiritual Warfare** – Standing against the enemy (Ephesians 6:10-18)
- **Christian Conduct** – Walking in the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-25)

3. They Defend Against False Doctrines

Paul warns about false teachers (Galatians 1:6-9, 2 Timothy 4:3-4) and emphasizes the need to stand firm in sound doctrine (Titus 2:1). This remains critical today as many distort the gospel.

4. They Emphasize the Church's Role

Paul explains the **body of Christ** (1 Corinthians 12:12-27), the **role of pastors and elders** (1 Timothy 3:1-7), and the **importance of fellowship** (Hebrews 10:25). His teachings help believers understand how to function within the church.

5. They Give Us Hope for Christ's Return

Paul's writings on the **Second Coming of Christ** (1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, 1 Corinthians 15:51-58) provide hope in troubled times, reminding believers of their future resurrection and eternal life with Christ.

Conclusion

Paul's explanations are essential today because they teach us **who we are in Christ, how to live by faith, how to resist falsehood, and how to prepare for Christ's return**. His epistles continue to **equip, encourage, and establish believers** in the truth of God's Word.

Elder W H Moody

**Doctrines in Philippians 1**

Philippians 1 introduces key doctrines about **Christian joy, partnership in the Gospel, suffering for Christ, and living for Christ**. Paul encourages the Philippians to remain **steadfast in faith** despite hardships, demonstrating how true joy comes from **Christ-centered living, not circumstances**.

**1. The Doctrine of Christian Fellowship (Philippians 1:3-5)**

- "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now."

****Key Doctrines:****

- **Christian Fellowship in the Gospel** – Believers share a spiritual partnership in spreading the Gospel.
- **Joy in Christian Relationships** – True joy comes from unity in Christ, not external circumstances.

**2. The Doctrine of Sanctification (Philippians 1:6)**

- "Being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ."

****Key Doctrines:****

- **God Finishes What He Starts** – Sanctification is a lifelong process.
- **God's Sovereignty in Salvation** – The work of salvation and growth in faith is God's doing.
- **Security of the Believer** – God will complete the work of salvation in His people.

**3. The Doctrine of Christian Love and Knowledge (Philippians 1:9-11)**

- "And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, that you may approve the things that are excellent."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Love Must Grow in Knowledge**** – True love is guided by biblical truth and discernment.
- ****Righteousness Through Christ**** – Believers are filled with Christ's righteousness, not their own.

**4. The Doctrine of Gospel Advancement Through Suffering (Philippians 1:12-14)**

- "The things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****God Uses Suffering for His Glory**** – Trials can advance the Gospel.
- ****Boldness in Persecution**** – Difficulties should encourage, not discourage, believers.

**5. The Doctrine of Christ-Centered Living (Philippians 1:21-24)**

- "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Life's Purpose is Christ**** – Every aspect of life should be centered on Christ.
- ****Death is Gain**** – The believer's ultimate hope is eternal life with Christ.

**6. The Doctrine of Christian Unity and Conduct (Philippians 1:27-30)**

- "Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ."
- "For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Live Worthy of the Gospel**** – Christian behavior must reflect the faith we proclaim.
- ****Unity in the Church**** – Believers must stand firm together in faith.
- ****Suffering for Christ is a Privilege**** – Persecution is part of the Christian life.

**Summary of Doctrines in Philippians 1:**

1. ****Christian Fellowship**** – Believers share in the work of the Gospel (v.3-5).
2. ****Sanctification**** – God completes the good work He started in believers (v.6).
3. ****Love with Knowledge**** – Christian love must be discerning and rooted in truth (v.9-11).
4. ****Suffering Advances the Gospel**** – Hardships can be used for God's glory (v.12-14).
5. ****Christ is Our Life**** – Living is for Christ; dying is gain (v.21).
6. ****Worthy Conduct**** – Believers must live in a way that reflects the Gospel (v.27).
7. ****Suffering for Christ**** – Persecution is part of the Christian calling (v.29-30).

**Main Message:**

Philippians 1 teaches that ****Christ is the believer's joy, purpose, and hope****. No matter the circumstances, whether in life or death, ****everything should be centered on Christ****. Suffering is not a setback but a way God uses believers to ****advance His kingdom****.

****Doctrines in Philippians 2****

Philippians 2 focuses on ****humility, unity, Christ's example, obedience, and the believer's role in God's work****. Paul urges Christians to live with ****Christ-like humility****, work out their faith with ****fear and trembling****, and shine as ****lights in the world****.

****1. The Doctrine of Unity Through Humility (Philippians 2:1-4)****

- "Fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind."
- "Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Christian Unity**** – Believers must strive for unity in love and purpose.
- ****Humility and Selflessness**** – True Christian living prioritizes others above oneself.

****2. The Doctrine of Christ's Humility and Exaltation (Philippians 2:5-11)****

- "Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, but made Himself of no reputation."
- "God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****The Deity of Christ**** – Jesus is fully God (v.6).
- ****The Incarnation**** – Christ humbled Himself by taking human form (v.7).
- ****Christ's Perfect Obedience**** – Jesus was obedient even to death (v.8).
- ****Christ's Exaltation**** – Because of His humility, God highly exalted Him (v.9-11).
- ****Every Knee Will Bow**** – Christ will be universally recognized as Lord (v.10-11).

****3. The Doctrine of Sanctification and Obedience (Philippians 2:12-13)****

- "Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling."
- "For it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Sanctification**** – Believers must actively grow in their faith (v.12).
- ****God's Sovereignty in Sanctification**** – It is ultimately God who works within believers (v.13).
- ****Obedience in the Christian Life**** – Spiritual growth requires effort and submission to God.

**4. The Doctrine of Christian Witness (Philippians 2:14-16)**

- "Do all things without complaining and disputing, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Christians as Lights in the World**** – Believers must stand out by their godly conduct.
- ****Avoiding Complaints and Arguments**** – A faithful witness requires a joyful, content spirit.

**5. The Doctrine of Joy in Service and Sacrifice (Philippians 2:17-18)**

- "If I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Sacrificial Service**** – True Christian leadership involves self-sacrifice.
- ****Joy in Suffering**** – Paul finds joy even in hardship.

**6. The Doctrine of Christian Example (Philippians 2:19-30)**

- Paul commends ****Timothy**** and ****Epaphroditus**** as faithful servants.
- "For the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me."

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Godly Examples in the Church**** – Christians should imitate faithful leaders.
- ****Sacrificial Ministry**** – Epaphroditus risked his life for the Gospel.

****Summary of Doctrines in Philippians 2:****

1. ****Unity Through Humility**** – Christians should live in harmony by putting others first (v.1-4).
2. ****Christ's Humility and Exaltation**** – Jesus, though God, humbled Himself and was exalted (v.5-11).
3. ****Sanctification and Obedience**** – Salvation leads to ongoing spiritual growth (v.12-13).
4. ****Christian Witness**** – Believers must stand out in a sinful world by their conduct (v.14-16).
5. ****Joy in Service and Sacrifice**** – Christian service involves self-sacrifice and joy (v.17-18).
6. ****Examples of Faithfulness**** – Timothy and Epaphroditus show what Christian devotion looks like (v.19-30).

****Main Message:****

Philippians 2 teaches that ****true Christian life is marked by humility, obedience, and joyful service****. Christ is our ultimate example—He humbled Himself for our sake, and because of His obedience, God highly exalted Him. ****Believers must follow His example, working out their salvation, shining as lights, and serving others with joy****.

**Doctrines in Philippians 3**

Philippians 3 focuses on **rejecting self-righteousness, pursuing Christ, pressing toward the heavenly goal, and living as citizens of heaven**. Paul warns against false teachers, emphasizes the superiority of knowing Christ over legalistic righteousness, and encourages believers to press on toward their eternal prize.

**1. The Doctrine of Justification by Faith, Not Works (Philippians 3:1-9)**

- "Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation!" (v.2)
- "Not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith." (v.9)

****Key Doctrines:****

- **Warning Against False Teachers** – Judaizers promoted circumcision and the law for salvation (v.2).
- **Salvation by Faith, Not the Law** – Paul rejects self-righteousness based on the law (v.9).
- **True Righteousness Comes from Christ** – Justification is by faith alone, not works (v.9).

**2. The Doctrine of Knowing Christ Above All (Philippians 3:7-11)**

- "But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ." (v.7)
- "That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death." (v.10)

****Key Doctrines:****

- **Knowing Christ is the Greatest Treasure** – Everything else is worthless compared to Christ (v.7-8).
- **The Power of Christ's Resurrection** – Believers experience victory through Christ (v.10).
- **Suffering for Christ** – Sharing in Christ's sufferings leads to spiritual growth (v.10).

**3. The Doctrine of Pressing Toward Spiritual Maturity (Philippians 3:12-16)**

- "Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on." (v.12)
- "Forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead." (v.13)

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Christian Growth is a Lifelong Pursuit**** – Paul acknowledges he hasn't reached full maturity (v.12).
- ****Forget the Past, Focus on the Future**** – Believers must not dwell on past failures but keep pressing forward (v.13-14).
- ****The Heavenly Prize is Our Goal**** – The reward is Christ Himself (v.14).

**4. The Doctrine of Heavenly Citizenship (Philippians 3:17-21)**

- "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ." (v.20)
- "Who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body." (v.21)

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Believers are Citizens of Heaven**** – Our true home is with Christ (v.20).
- ****Jesus Will Transform Our Bodies**** – Glorification will happen at Christ's return (v.21).

**Summary of Doctrines in Philippians 3:**

1. ****Justification by Faith, Not the Law**** – Salvation is through faith in Christ, not works (v.1-9).
2. ****Knowing Christ is Greater Than Anything**** – True righteousness comes from faith in Him (v.7-11).
3. ****Christian Growth is a Lifelong Pursuit**** – Believers must keep pressing forward (v.12-16).
4. ****Citizens of Heaven**** – Our ultimate hope is in Christ's return and glorification (v.17-21).

**Main Message:**

Philippians 3 teaches that ****salvation is by faith alone, not works****, and knowing Christ is ****the highest pursuit****. Believers must ****press forward****, keeping their eyes on the ****heavenly prize****, as ****citizens of heaven****, eagerly awaiting Christ's return.

**Doctrines in Philippians 4**

Philippians 4 focuses on **peace, contentment, joy, and reliance on God's strength**. Paul encourages believers to stand firm in faith, pray instead of worrying, think on what is good, and be content in all circumstances through Christ.

**1. The Doctrine of Joy and Unity in the Lord (Philippians 4:1-5)**

- "Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!" (v.4)
- "Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord is at hand." (v.5)

****Key Doctrines:****

- **Christian Unity** – Paul urges believers to be of the same mind in the Lord (v.2-3).
- **Joy in the Lord** – Joy is a command, rooted in our relationship with Christ (v.4).
- **Gentleness and Readiness for Christ's Return** – Believers must reflect Christ's love while awaiting His return (v.5).

**2. The Doctrine of Peace Through Prayer (Philippians 4:6-7)**

- "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God." (v.6)
- "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." (v.7)

****Key Doctrines:****

- **Victory Over Anxiety** – Instead of worrying, believers must pray with thanksgiving (v.6).
- **God's Peace Guards Us** – True peace comes from trusting God (v.7).

**3. The Doctrine of Right Thinking (Philippians 4:8-9)**

- "Whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just... meditate on these things." (v.8)
- "The God of peace will be with you." (v.9)

****Key Doctrines:****

- **Transforming the Mind** – Right thinking leads to right living (v.8).
- **God's Peace Comes Through Obedience** – Those who practice godly living experience His peace (v.9).

**4. The Doctrine of Contentment in Christ (Philippians 4:10-13)**

- "I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content." (v.11)
- "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." (v.13)

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****Contentment is Learned**** – True contentment comes from dependence on Christ (v.11-12).
- ****Strength Comes from Christ**** – Christ enables believers to endure all situations (v.13).

**5. The Doctrine of God's Provision (Philippians 4:14-19)**

- "My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus." (v.19)

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****God Provides for His People**** – He meets the needs of those who give generously (v.19).

**6. The Doctrine of Worship and Glory to God (Philippians 4:20-23)**

- "To our God and Father be glory forever and ever. Amen." (v.20)

****Key Doctrines:****

- ****All Glory Belongs to God**** – Everything we do should point to His glory (v.20).

**Summary of Doctrines in Philippians 4:**

1. ****Joy and Unity in Christ**** – Believers must rejoice and be united in faith (v.1-5).
2. ****Peace Through Prayer**** – Worry is replaced by prayer and thanksgiving (v.6-7).
3. ****Right Thinking**** – A Christ-centered mind leads to peace (v.8-9).
4. ****Contentment in Christ**** – True satisfaction is found in Christ alone (v.10-13).
5. ****God's Provision**** – The Lord meets the needs of His people (v.14-19).
6. ****Worship and Glory to God**** – Everything is for God's glory (v.20-23).

**Main Message:**

Philippians 4 teaches believers to ****rejoice always, trust God's peace, think rightly, be content, and rely on Christ's strength****. God will ****provide for His people****, and ****all glory belongs to Him****.