

# PHILIPPIANS

## The Epistle of

# Joy



Somo la Agano la Kale - Nehemia 8:1-11

Agano Jipya - 1 Petro 1:3-12

**Waraka wa Furaha**

**“Kwa Utukufu na Sifa za Mungu”**

**Wafilipi 1:1-2, Matendo 16:1-40.**

**Wayne J. Edwards, Mchungaji**

Waraka kwa Wafilipi uliandikwa na Mtume Paulo kutoka katika chumba chake cha gereza huko Rumi mwaka 62 BK

- Kati ya Nyaraka nne za Gerezani, Waefeso, Wafilipi, Wakolosai, na Filemoni, Wafilipi ilikuwa barua ya mwisho ambayo Paulo aliandika.
- Akiogopa kuuawa kwake kumekaribia, Paulo alitaka wafuasi wake wajue jinsi alivyothamini msaada wao wa kifedha, na kuwahakikishia kwamba alipanga kuwatembelea tena atakapoachiliwa kutoka gerezani.
- Hata hivyo, Paulo alisema alikaribisha kifo ikiwa, kwa vyovyote vile, kingeimarisha uenezaji wa injili.
- Paulo aliwasihi wasomaji wake kubaki imara katika imani yao, na kumfuata kama alivyomfuata Kristo, ambaye **“alijifanya kuwa hana** uweza na utukufu wa cheo chake cha mbinguni, kisha akajinyenyekeza chini ya mapenzi ya Baba, kwa kuwa **“mtiifu kwa Mungu. mauti, naam, mauti ya msalaba.”**

## Watumishi:

- **Mtume Paulo** - mtu Yesu aliongoka kwenye Barabara ya Damasko, na kuamuru kupeleka injili kwa Mataifa. Mungu alimtumia Paulo kuandika nyaraka 13 za Agano Jipya.
- **Timotheo** - kijana Paulo alikutana naye huko Listra ambaye alikuwa amekomaa kiroho hata akamwalika kujiunga na timu ya misheni. Paulo alimpenda kijana huyu ambaye alikuwa amejaa katika maandiko na mama yake na nyanyake. Ingawa hakuwa Myahudi, Timotheo alikubali kutahiriwa ili asiwaudhi Wayahudi.
- **Prisila na Akila**, wenzi wa ndoa waliomsaidia Paulo kutengeneza na kuuza mahema ili kugharimia safari hiyo.
- **Sila** - mtu ambaye alisafiri na Paulo katika safari yake ya kwanza ya umishonari; mtu mcha Mungu, na mtu mwaminifu ambaye Paulo angeweza kumwamini.
- **Luka** - mwandishi wa injili ambaye alibaki na Paulo hata siku Paulo alikatwa kichwa.
- Paulo alisema wote walikuwa **watumwa**, watumwa ambao walimpenda bwana wao sana na kwa hiari wakawa watumishi wake kwa maisha yote. Wamiliki wao walitoboa masikio yao kwa taulo ili kuonyesha utii wao katika utumwa.

### A BONDSERVANT

- A bondservant is a slave who is subservient to, and entirely at the disposal of, his master. In the New Testament, a bondservant was a person who was absolutely devoted to Jesus.
- Paul, Timothy, James, Peter, and Jude, all describe themselves as “bondservants of Christ” (Romans 1:1; Philippians 1:1; James 1:1; 2 Peter 1:1; Jude 1:1, NKJV).
- Believers today should be considered as bondservants of Christ (1 Corinthians 7:22; Ephesians 6:6; 2 Timothy 2:24), for He is our Lord, and our allegiance is due to Him alone.
- As bondservants, we renounce other masters (Matthew 6:24) and give ourselves totally to Him (Matthew 16:24).

## **"My Ears You Have Pierced"**

**Psa 40:6**

***"But if the servant declares, 'I love my master and my wife and children and do not want to go free,' then his master must take him before the judges. He shall take him to the door or the doorpost and pierce his ear with an awl. Then he will be his servant for life."***

**Ex 21:5-6**



**Watakatifu** - Neno "mtakatifu" linamaanisha wale waliookolewa, yaani, waliotakaswa na kutengwa kwa ajili ya matumizi ya Mungu.

**Maaskofu na Mashemasi** - tangu Paulo alipoondoka, kanisa lilikuwa limekua kiidadi na kiroho, kwa kuwa walikuwa wamechagua viongozi wa kiroho.

**Salamu:**

- ***"Neema na iwe kwenu na amani kutoka kwa Mungu Baba yetu na Bwana Yesu Kristo." "Charis," na "Shalom," - Nakutakia neema, nakutakia amani!***
- Wafilipi ndio waraka pekee ambao Paulo aliandika kwa kanisa ambalo halikuwa na tatizo la kitheolojia, kimafundisho, au kimaadili.
- Paul wrote it to express his appreciation and affection for the gracious generosity of the believers at Philippi. In effect, the Apostle Paul said: ***"Yes, I'm in prison, but I'm still rejoicing over your goodness to me."***

### **TRUE JOY**

***"True joy is a gift from God to those who set their hope and put their trust in God alone. True joy is produced in them by the Holy Spirit who indwells them, because of their willingness to obey God, even when their obedience includes suffering and possibly death."***

**Dr. John MacArthur**

**Acts 16 is the background  
for Paul's letter to the Philippians**



## PAUL'S SECOND MISSIONARY JOURNEY

### TIMOTHY JOINS PAUL AND SILAS (1-5)

- Paul and Silas traveled to Derbe and Lystra, where they met Timothy, a young man who had been saturated in the Scriptures by his mother and grandmother.
- Paul was so impressed with Timothy that he invited him to join him on his mission tour. Timothy was so spiritually mature that he was willing to be circumcized to not offend the Jews.

### TIMOTHY'S FIRST MISSION (4-5)

- Paul and Silas delivered the decrees from Jerusalem to the churches in Derbe and Lystra. The churches were strengthened, and the number of converts increased daily.

### THE MACEDONIA CALL (6-10)

- Having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the gospel in Asia or Bithynia, Paul and his team by passed Mysia and sailed on to Troas.

### CALLED BY A VISION (9-10)

- Having received a vision in the night of a man from Macedonia asking for help, Paul and his companions concluded that God wanted them to go to Macedonia, where Luke joined the team.

### CONVERSIONS AT PHILIPPI (11-40)

### THE CONVERSION OF LYDIA (11-15)

- Paul and the team sailed from Troas to Samothrace, Neapolis, and finally to Philippi of Macedonia, a Roman colony.

- Not having a synagogue in which to worship, Paul and his team met with some women who were gathered by the river to pray.

- After hearing Paul speak, the Lord opened Lydia's heart to receive the gospel. She and her household were baptized and invited Paul and his team to her home.
- This was the first church to be started in the Roman Colony of Philippi and the first city in Europe to be evangelized – i.e., **this is where the evangelical church in Europe began.**

## THE CONVERSION OF THE JAILER (16-40)

- A young slave girl, possessed with a spirit of divination, began following Paul and his team, declaring them as true servants of God who were proclaiming the only way to salvation.
- Even though what she said was true, Paul knew her testimony was not of the Lord, so he cast the evil spirit from her.
- The men who were making money from her fortunetelling brought Paul and Silas before the magistrates, and accused them as troublemakers and of teaching unlawful customs.
- Paul and Silas were beaten with rods and imprisoned in stocks.
- At midnight, Paul and Silas began praying and singing hymns, and an earthquake occurred that was so great it opened the prison doors and broke the stock's chains.
- Knowing he would be executed for losing his prisoners, the jailer prepared to kill himself, but Paul assured him that the prisoners were still there.
- Alipoona upendo wao kwake, mlinzi wa gereza aliwauliza Paulo na Sila kile alichopaswa kufanya ili kuokolewa, nao wakamwambia amwamini Bwana Yesu Kristo naye ataokolewa. Baadaye, walimpeleka kando na kumweleza maandiko.
- Mlinzi wa gereza na familia yake walimpokea Yesu Kristo kama Mwokozi na Bwana wao, na baada ya kubatizwa, waliwalisha Paulo na Sila na kufanya kile walichoweza kutibu majeraha yao.
- Akijua kwamba yeye na Sila walikuwa wametendewa vibaya wakiwa raia wa Roma, Paulo aliwataka mahakimu waje na kuwaambia kuhusu uhuru wao, nao wakarudi nyumbani kwa Lidia na kuwatia moyo akina ndugu.

***"Roho Mtakatifu pekee  
ndiye anayeweza kumpa mwamini wa kweli  
furaha isiyo ya kawaida."***

- Neno la Kigiriki la "furaha" ni chara, linalotokana na neno charis, ambalo ni neno la Kigiriki la neema.
- Kwa hiyo, ("furaha") inatolewa na charis ("neema") ya Mungu.
- Furaha inategemea hali ya kibinadamu. Kwa hivyo, bora zaidi ulimwengu huu wenye dhambi unapaswa kumpa mtu yeyote ni furaha ya muda.
- **Hata hivyo, mwenye dhambi anapompokea Yesu Kristo kama Mwokozi na Bwana wao, Roho Mtakatifu huhuisha roho zetu za kibinadamu, na kujaza nafsi zetu kwa furaha - furaha ya kweli, furaha ya ajabu, furaha isiyoelezeka na ya milele.**
- Kwa hiyo, maisha yetu yanapokuwa magumu, na "wanyang'anyi wa furaha" wa ibilisi wakizingira, Roho Mtakatifu, anayekaa ndani yetu, huiuka ili kupinga shinikizo hilo la kishetani kwa kutujaza furaha isiyoneneka na iliyojaa utukufu.
- Kwa hivyo, furaha ya kweli ni iibu la Mungu lisilo la kawaida kwa mashambulizi ya shetani.

- Tunapofurahi kupitia mateso badala ya kununa ndani yake, Mungu anaweza kututumia kuathiri watu kwa njia ambazo hatuwezi kamwe kuelewa upande huu wa mbinguni.

***“Utanionyesha njia ya uzima;  
Mbele za uso wako mna furaha tele;  
Katika mkono wako wa kuume kuna mema ya milele.”***  
**Zaburi 16:11**