

all Saints would have in striving together for the faith of the gospel having the same love found in Christ, being of one accord, and of the same mind that was found in Christ Jesus. {Study PHILIPPIANS 1:27, and 2:1-5.} PHILIPPIANS 2:2 *Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.*)

Partly because of Paul and Timothy's strong "likeminded" bond, we can better track Paul's progress through his last few years here on earth. We begin to see this connection in several verses written from Paul's Roman prison where he was either with Timothy, or had mentioned Timothy, such as was noted above in PHILIPPIANS 2:23 *Him therefore I hope to send presently, so soon as I shall see how it will go with me.* Then in verse 24 Paul adds: *But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly.* Paul had hinted this also in PHILIPPIANS 1:25 & 26 -- *And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith; 26 That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.* Add to this what Paul wrote in PHILEMON 1:22 *But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.* Here we find an indication that the Apostle Paul expected to be released from his Roman prison sometime in the near future. (Incidentally the phrase "I trust" as in *...I trust in the Lord,...* which we just read in PHILIPPIANS 2:19 & 24, and PHILEMON 1:22, is found exactly nineteen times in scripture. Again nineteen in the number associated with FAITH. Think about this for a moment too, didn't all the Old Testament worthies of FAITH do this too? Yes, they all said in their heart *...I trust in the Lord,...* and all the New Testament worthies of FAITH will also be known to have said *...I trust in the Lord,...*.) Another verse written by Paul from Rome somewhere during this same time frame is HEBREWS 13:23 *Know ye that our brother Timothy is set at liberty; with whom, if he come shortly, I will see you.* This verse in HEBREWS is the only one in scripture indicating that Timothy was taken prisoner somewhere along the way, no doubt for preaching the gospel. We see from the above scriptures that this "likeminded" pair of Paul and Timothy anticipated a journey shortly after the writing of this in HEBREWS 13:23.

Lord willing we will discuss more concerning Timothy further in this study on the life of the Apostle Paul, for after all, Paul did write Timothy two epistles later in his life. I think we have properly noted here the importance of Timothy in the life of the Apostle Paul.

Epaphroditus

Of the ten men whom we do know that visited Paul during his two year prison stay mentioned in ACTS 28:30 & 31, the second one we will look at is Epaphroditus, the other Church Apostle found in our list above besides Timothy. {See again page 1149 of these notes.} Epaphroditus is only found mentioned in PHILIPPIANS chapters 2 & 4, yet as we will see he has been an important part of Paul's life since the time frame of Paul's second missionary journey, which was fought so hard in the beginning.

Before we get to far into looking at Epaphroditus in a little more detail, let's quickly get an overview of Paul's letter to the PHILIPPIANS. Brother Hill noted in his study that the book of PHILIPPIANS has no doctrines to expound, nor any errors to refute. Rather the book of PHILIPPIANS was written to encourage the heart of every potential full overcomer, and "lover of the race course," who individually wants God's best in their own life! PHILIPPIANS is known as the joy book of the Bible, which is a pronounced theme throughout this epistle! In PHILIPPIANS we find the word "joy" six times, and the word "rejoice" ten times. What was the focal point of Paul's joy? It wasn't his present circumstances, for he was still a prisoner in Rome. Paul's focal point of joy was Jesus Christ. Note how Paul began his letter to the Saints at Philippi: PHILIPPIANS 1:3 *I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, 4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, 5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; 6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: 7 Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. 8 For*

God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ. Note here from verses 4 & 5 that Paul expressed his joy of having fellowship with the Philippian Saints in the gospel. The Philippian Saints, are known as “lovers of horses,” or “lovers of the race horse.” This too brought great joy in the heart of Paul.

I want to insert here a thought written in the Bible of Brother Hill taken from PHILIPPIANS 1:19, which addresses how Paul truly appreciated the prayers of the Philippian Saints, which in turn gave him further inspiration to write this joy book of the Bible. PHILIPPIANS 1:19 reads: *For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ...* . Here is what Brother Hill inserted in his notes here concerning Paul: “It is good to examine a strong mans life, and the resources back of it; to know his bank and its ability and willingness to back the demands of business. Such is our privilege with Paul, now a prisoner at Rome; the journey of life has crossed international boundaries, seas, rivers, deserts, mountains, valleys, and just about every adversity known. But gospel fires have been set, and now offer shelter to whosoever will. Now he is in prison; the torch bearer in bonds. The circumstances shout “you are finished, your work is ended.” But no! But where is hope? On what can he rely? Verse 19 *For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ...* . Thus we see one of the great resources of Paul was the prayers of others. In this way the weak and defeated become strong and even companions of the great Apostle. (1 SAMUEL 12:23 (Saul and Israel) *Moreover as for me, God forbid that I should sin against the LORD in ceasing to pray for you: but I will teach you the good and the right way: ...* .) ...So God has ordained that by prayer we can master the impossible. We can by prayer become ministers of God’s salvation, and the truth. We can by prayer go forth to battle and victory. We can by prayer stand in the pulpit with the minister. We can become mighty helpmeets. Prayer is the appointed means by which rivers of mercy are poured out to the individual of the church making them masters of every situation, or crying need -- after the armour of EPHESIANS 6:18 praying always with all prayer. Thus prayer is more than words; it is acts; it is thus we lift the sluice gates, and make way for the riches in glory by Christ Jesus to meet our every need.” (End of quote from Brother Hill’s Bible.)

Hopefully these thoughts, and your own personal study of PHILIPPIANS will cause you also to also rejoice more in the Lord along with the Apostle Paul. PHILIPPIANS 3:1 *Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you, to me indeed is not grievous, but for you it is safe.* Paul expounds several more thoughts concerning “joy,” and “rejoicing” in the Lord in this joy book of PHILIPPIANS, and then writes in 4:1 *Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved.* Obviously the Holy Ghost inspired the Apostle Paul to write such exhortations, and, no doubt, He used the visit by Epaphroditus to Paul in Rome to add fuel to his inspiration in writing this joy book of the Bible, for Epaphroditus brought great joy to the heart of Paul. So Paul spends much time in PHILIPPIANS 2, and 4 giving his thoughts on Epaphroditus.

Epaphroditus was from Philippi. Epaphroditus is noted by Paul to be “...*my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier...*” in PHILIPPIANS 2:25. Epaphroditus name is taken from the Greek word “Aphrodite” whom they associated with love and beauty, thus we find the following meanings of the name Epaphroditus: lovely, fascinating, fair, graceful, agreeable, and handsome. Epaphroditus has taken the time to hazard a journey to Rome to find Paul with an offering gift from those Saints of Philippi. PHILIPPIANS 4:18 *But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.*

Paul’s first visit to Philippi was recorded in ACTS 16. There Paul was thrown into prison, which was our first record of any of his imprisonment’s, though he wrote of being *...in prisons more frequent...* in 2 CORINTHIANS 11:23. Obviously we don’t know all of Paul’s imprisonment’s. We do know that prisoners were set free at Philippi, ACTS 16:26 tells us this. The jailor at Philippi got saved in ACTS 16, thus these of the Philippian prison who heard Paul and Silas sing at midnight, and Lydia, and her household were all that we are told of being a part of the church there at Philippi initially. From studying ACTS it seems that Luke apparently stayed in Philippi for several years, possibly further establishing the church there. Paul wrote this concerning the church at Philippi:

PHILIPPIANS 4:15 *Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. 16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. 17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.* This was written about the time when Paul was in Thessalonica for the first time in ACTS 17. Epaphroditus may have been one of the ones from that early church at Philippi, and it is even possible Epaphroditus may have been one of the prisoners there at Philippi who heard Paul and Silas sing praises unto God on that dark midnight when Paul and Silas were held prisoner there. Scripture doesn't tell us much about Epaphroditus, but we do know that the Apostle Paul was very familiar with Epaphroditus by the time he wrote PHILIPPIANS, and it is obvious that Epaphroditus was very familiar with the Apostle Paul and his gospel message, and with those at Philippi.

In PHILIPPIANS 2 Paul now sends Epaphroditus back to Philippi with this exhortation: PHILIPPIANS 2:25 *Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.* The word messenger here is the same word found in 2 CORINTHIANS 8:23, which in the Greek is apostolos, that is apostle. Thus we note that Epaphroditus is a Church Apostle, one of the messengers of Christ who spread Paul's gospel message. Here is some more of what the Apostle Paul says of him. PHILIPPIANS 2:25-30 from an expounded translation: 25 *Yet I deem it important to send Epaphroditus to you now, he is my brother and comrade both in labour and in arms, but your apostle, and minister to help me in my need. 26 For he has been homesick for you all, and was sore troubled at your having heard of his illness. 27 And, indeed, he had a sickness which brought him almost to death, but God had compassion on him, and not on him only, but on me also, that I might not have the sorrow of losing him to add to my sufferings. 28 I am therefore all the more eager to send him in the hope that when you see him again you may be glad, and that I may feel more relieved from anxiety. 29 So give him a hearty Christian welcome, and hold in honor men like him; 30 Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, hazarding his very life, that he might supply all which you could not do, for me in person in ministering to me.*

Recall the words of the Apostles and elders found in ACTS 15 stated of the first Church Apostles Paul and Barnabas: ACTS 15:26 *Men that have hazarded their lives for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.* It should not be any surprise to us to read a similar statement about Apostle Epaphroditus, hazarding his very life for the work of Christ, as Paul stated in PHILIPPIANS 2:30. Hazarding ones life for the name of our Lord Jesus Christ was one of the outstanding qualities of the Church Apostles, and one of the reasons we have Paul's gospel left for us today. Ponder this: Paul's gospel didn't come easy, but through a trial tested hazarded suffering way, which is the only way that leads to having God's eternal best. Also think about the complexities of travel in Paul's day, and recall the many different problems the Apostle Paul himself had encountered getting to Rome with a Roman escort, as recorded in ACTS 27 and 28. Epaphroditus traveling from Philippi to Rome faced unknown obstacles in seeking out Paul, and when he arrived PHILIPPIANS 2:30 tells us that *"...he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life,..."* doing all of this *"...for the work of Christ..."* How long Epaphroditus' journey from Philippi to Rome took we are not told. It was a journey born of love; first the love of the Lord, second the love of the Apostle Paul. 1 JOHN 4:11 *Beloved, if God so loved us, we ought also to love one another.* 1 THESSALONIANS 4:9 reads: *But as touching brotherly love ye need not that I write unto you: for ye yourselves are taught of God to love one another.* In JOHN 15:12 we read Jesus own words: *This is my commandment, That ye love one another, as I have loved you.* The Apostle Paul appreciated the love of God shown by Epaphroditus, and the effort he had made in seeking Paul out, so Paul writes in PHILIPPIANS 2:25 his gratitude by stating this of Epaphroditus: (he is) *my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, (Apostle), and he that ministered to my wants.* Only a true good loving friend would travel so far, risking his own life in the process, just to visit someone. Such a friend was Epaphroditus.

Paul knew this and appreciated Epaphroditus' effort so much, that it caused him to think of the long journey the Lord Jesus Christ Himself had made to this world just to

visit you and me. Perhaps this journey of Epaphroditus inspired Paul to write about the sevenfold self-humbling steps of Christ, which He took to be our Saviour. PHILIPPIANS 2:5-8 records these steps: 5 *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: 6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: 7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: 8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.* Paul then wrote of an exalted Jesus in verses 9-11: *Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: 10 That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; 11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

Again perhaps we owe Epaphroditus some credit here for being part of the inspiration for the Apostle Paul making these statements, for Epaphroditus and Paul enjoyed each others fellowship centered about conversations concerning our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. Paul was then further inspired to write about his goal in life. PHILIPPIANS 3:8 *Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, 9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: 10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; 11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead. 12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.* Remember that the Philippian Saints, are known as “lovers of horses,” or “lovers of the race horse” too, and also pressing toward the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus, as was Epaphroditus!

Further note this in PHILIPPIANS 2:25 about Epaphroditus; he ministered unto the Apostle Paul. Do you think you could minister to the Apostle Paul? Epaphroditus did. There is at least a two fold ministry here. First, Epaphroditus brought Paul a gift from those precious Philippian Saints that ministered unto his needs. We are not told what that was, but Paul again mentions it in PHILIPPIANS 4:14-18, which reads: 14 *Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction. 15 Now ye Philipians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. 16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. 17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. 18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.* This was a true manifestation of brotherly love from those Philippian Saints. Secondly, Epaphroditus himself was able to minister unto the Apostle Paul, which included long and rich conversations about the things of God. As mentioned previously, conversations that inspired portions of the joy book of the Bible. Brother Hill stated it like this in his study book of Philipians page 79, (which is copyrighted, by the way): “What a privilege Epaphroditus counted it to be allowed to minister to Paul, who had ministered so much to him. Paul, who was such an expert at bringing to others life and exuberant strength and grace. So each flowed out to the other. Epaphroditus to Paul, Paul to Epaphroditus. Epaphroditus needed and Paul ministered life to him. Now Paul is in prison and needy, and Epaphroditus ministers to him, each with the gracious sympathy of the Lord. Made one in Christ, they were brethren and lived interpenetrated lives, each embracing the other with redeeming grace. How is it with you and me?” (end of copyrighted quote).

We find three church Apostles together here as Paul finishes writing his PHILIPPIANS epistle (Paul, Timothy, and Epaphroditus). All three are intently focused upon having God’s best, and they all deeply loved the Lord, and loved one another, as we

mentioned above. When Paul wrote some things about Epaphroditus in this epistle, he expressed his deep love and appreciation for this dedicated man by the words he used in writing about him. Brother Hill also noted that this "brother," this "companion in labour," this dedicated "fellowsoldier," not only was a lover of the race horse, but a "war horse" himself as he ran his own race to win Christ as Bridegroom.

One of the words Paul uses to convey his deep appreciation of Epaphroditus is found in PHILIPPIANS 2:28 in the word "carefully." Let me explain. PHILIPPIANS 2:28 reads: *I sent him therefore the more carefully, that, when ye see him again, ye may rejoice, and that I may be the less sorrowful.* We might think, as some translations read, that the word "carefully" used here is the same as "careful" in PHILIPPIANS 4:6, but these are two different words. PHILIPPIANS 4:6 reads: *Be careful (anxious) for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.* Back in PHILIPPIANS 2:28 Paul was not "anxious" in sending Epaphroditus back to Philippi. The Greek word translated "carefully" in PHILIPPIANS 2:28 is *spoudaioteros* {spoo-dah-yot-er'-oce}, number 4708 in The Strong's Greek Concordance, which translates into diligently as in more diligent; earnestly as in more earnest; and it also carries the thought of doing this hastily, or with haste. Thus PHILIPPIANS 2:28 could be expounded like this: "I am therefore the more diligent to speedily send him, that you may have the joy of seeing him again, and that I may be the less sorrowful." Note here too once again the use of the word "rejoice," or "joy" that is once again expressed in this joy book of the Bible. Here Paul wishes the Philippians to have joy, and rejoice when Epaphroditus returns with this epistle of joy. Interestingly we find the word "rejoice" ten times in PHILIPPIANS, and the word "joy" six times, for a total of sixteen times; sixteen being the number of LOVE. Perhaps now we too see a little better picture of Paul's love of Epaphroditus because of their mutual love of Christ.

When someone or a group of some bodies does something for you, or sends something to you, and remembers you in your time of need, the proper thing for you then to do is to express your thanks. David the psalmist wrote in PSALMS 30:4 *Sing unto the LORD, O ye saints of his, and give thanks at the remembrance of his holiness.* Of course we know Paul did this, and we seen earlier how he was instrumental in establishing the church at Philippi by singing praises and songs at midnight in the Philippian jail. {Review ACTS 16:25-34.} Do you suppose Paul knew PSALMS 100? I bet he did, and here is what it says: PSALMS 100:1 *Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. 2 Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. 3 Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. 4 Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. 5 For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.* The point in once again mentioning this quality of thankfulness, (which will be found in the heart of all full overcomers by the way), is to observe that this letter to the PHILIPPIANS is really a fairly lengthy thank you letter for sending Epaphroditus to Paul while he was being held prisoner at Rome. Note again some of Paul's expressions of thanks in his writing PHILIPPIANS.

PHILIPPIANS 1:3 *I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, 4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, 5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; 6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ: 7 Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. 8 For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.*

PHILIPPIANS 4:8 *Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. 9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you. 10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity. 11 Not that I speak in*

respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content. 12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me. 14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction. 15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only. 16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity. 17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account. 18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God. 19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. 20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen. 21 Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you. 22 All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household. 23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.

It is thought that Epaphroditus delivered this letter of rejoicing, and thanksgiving to the Philippians, possibly with Timothy. (PHILIPPIANS 2:23 *Him therefore I hope to send presently, so soon as I shall see how it will go with me.*) Again rejoicing in the Lord, and having a thankful heart are qualities found in the life of a full overcoming Saint. Recall that seven times in scripture we find the phrase "be of good cheer." Seven is the number that speaks to us of SPIRITUAL PERFECTION or SPIRITUAL COMPLETION. Thus the phrase "be of good cheer" speaks to us some things about SPIRITUAL PERFECTION or SPIRITUAL COMPLETION. {Review page 785 of these notes.} All full overcomers from this church age that win Christ as their Bridegroom will be SPIRITUALLY COMPLETE, and SPIRITUALLY PERFECT. The Bride of Christ will "be of good cheer" while running her trial filled race course, for her focus will be upon the joy that is set before her, who is Jesus Christ. I realize that perhaps this is quite a concept to grasp, however we get our best picture of this in Paul's gospel record. And this epistle of PHILIPPIANS, which we have briefly just glimpsed some highlighted thoughts from, bare this out. We have in this study on the life of Paul have pointed out many things concerning what it takes to be a full overcomer. One point we noted is that to be a full overcomer means to yield your life totally over to the Lord, and let Him rule and overrule in all things. Brother Copley states this of an overcomer: "They are not content with simply a friendly affection for the Lord. They love him ardently, worship Him fervently, and serve Him faithfully. The Father watches over them as "the Apple of His eye." He has them in training for a throne. Their tests and trials are very strange and peculiar, often difficult to understand. They wholly follow the Lord." (End of quote from Brother Copley.) {See also pages 160, 609, and 639 of these notes.} We should now realize that Bridal overcomers will be of a thankful heart; will "be of good cheer" in spite of the test, or hard trial, ever looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith, as noted in HEBREWS 12:2! Epaphroditus was such a Saint, cherishing his encouraging time with Paul here in Rome, and treasuring this PHILIPPIANS epistle enough to have it preserved and shared with us even today!

Keep in mind that PHILIPPIANS is known as the joy book of the Bible! Paul encouraged us in PHILIPPIANS 4:8 *Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.* Note that the word "things" is found seven times in this verse, showing us again what kind of heart attitude is manifest in those who are letting the Lord work in their lives SPIRITUAL PERFECTION, and SPIRITUAL COMPLETION in those daily "things" He blesses us with. Thinking on these kind of things equates to "be of good cheer." So we see the kind of things going on in Paul's heart and mind during this time he was being held prisoner in Rome generated for us some of the most valuable scripture we find written from Paul! Thank God for the message of the Apostle Paul, and thank God for men like the Apostle Epaphroditus which helped preserve this message for us today.