

PHILIPPIANS	61 AD
<i>"Being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself and became obedient to death." 2:8</i>	
Author: Paul	
Written From: Rome in prison	
Sent To: Church in Philippi	
Purpose:	
1) Provide information concerning his circumstances (1:12-26); 2) Encourage them to live in humility and stay in unity as a church (2:1-11; 4:2-5); 3) Thank the Philippians for the financial gift (4:10-18); 4) Inform them concerning the return of Epaphroditus (2:25-26) 5) Warn them about Judaizers and false teachers (3:1-4:1)	
Theme: Joy and contentment in Christ as a citizen of heaven living on earth.	
Basic Outline:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter one, Paul's circumstances while in chains in Rome • Chapter two, Exhortation and encouragement to the people of Christ to think like Christ • Chapter three, Warning against legalism (Judaizers) and antinomianism (lawlessness) • Chapter four, Paul exhorts the Philippians to live in unity and thanks them for their gift 	
Memorable Verses:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel." 1:4,5 • "This is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth or insight." 1:9 • "Yes, and I will continue to rejoice." 1:18 • "Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ." 1:27 • "Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves." 2:3 • "Christ Jesus: who, being in very nature God..." 2:5, 6 • "At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord." 2:10-11 • "Continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling." 2:12 • "What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord." 3:8 • "Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me." 3:12 • "Many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach and their glory is in their shame." 3:19 • "Our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there." 3:20 • "Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your minds in Christ Jesus." 4:6-7 • "I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation." 4:11-12 • "I have received full payment and even more; I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent." 4:18 	

Greek Words:

- πολίτευμα – *politeuma* – citizenship. The word means either the state or the constitution to which the citizens belonged 3:20.
- πολιτευεσθε – *politeusesthe* – means “to be a citizen or to conduct oneself as a citizen”, 1:27.
- μορφή – *morphe* – form, essence, the outward display of the inner reality or substance, 2:6,7
- ὁμοιωμα – *homoïoma* – made like to, likeness, shape, similitude, 2:7.
- σχημα – *schema* – fashion, external condition, external shape, 2:8.
- κενωω – *kenoo* – to empty, to neutralize, to make of no effect, to void. This does not mean he emptied himself of being deity but neutralized the fact that he was deity and did not use it for any personal advantage, (Kenosis) 2:7.

Healthy Doctrine:

- Hypostatic Union – Jesus was both human and divine

Antony and Octavian (Caesar Augustus) defeated Brutus and Cassius at the Battle of Philippi in 42 BC. Anthony ordered some Roman soldiers to settle in Philippi and it became a Roman colony. The citizens were given the *Italic right* which meant the city had the same rights as a city in Italy which included tax exemptions, Roman citizenship for all its residents and government which operated on Roman law. The city had great advantages as a Roman colony in Macedonia and the people willingly used Latin, the language of Rome, as well as adapting to the customs and governing style of Rome. Paul tells these proud Roman citizens who maintained their status and lifestyle even though they lived outside of Italy, they were “citizens of heaven” (3:20).

In chapter one Paul updates the Philippians on his condition in prison as Acts 28 left him. He is ready to depart and be with Christ but believes it to be more beneficial if he continues on earth. In 2:23-24 Paul indicates he is confident he will be released.

Chapter two is one of the best discussions on the nature of Jesus Christ's deity and humanity. Jesus' humbling himself to serve mankind in order to fulfill God's will is put forth as an example to encourage the Philippians to also humble themselves and seek God's will and not their own. Christ did not use his power or position for himself but for others. The Philippians should also not use their power or position for themselves but instead use it to serve others. The second half of chapter two is used to discuss Timothy and the Philippians' own minister, Epaphroditus, who were sent to serve Paul in prison.

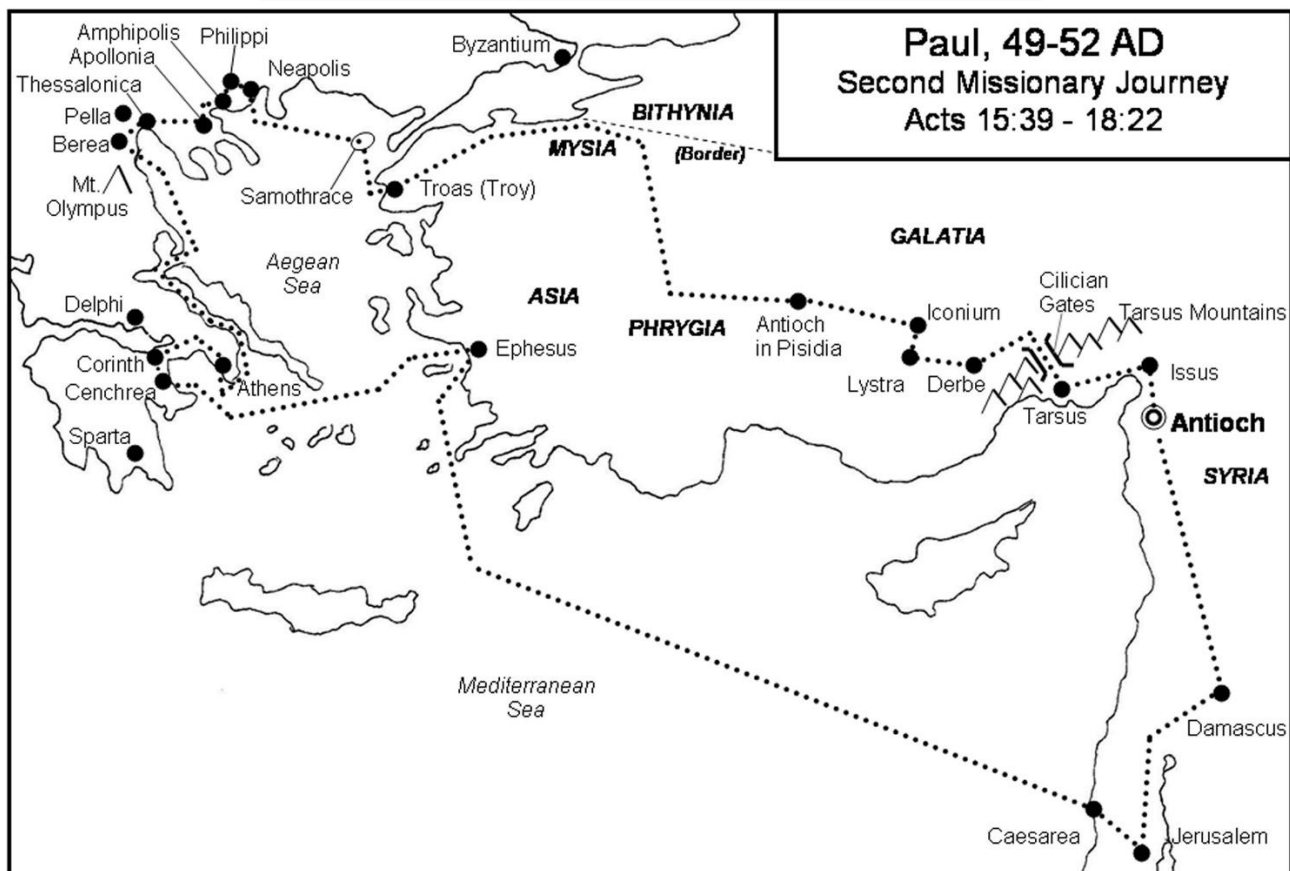
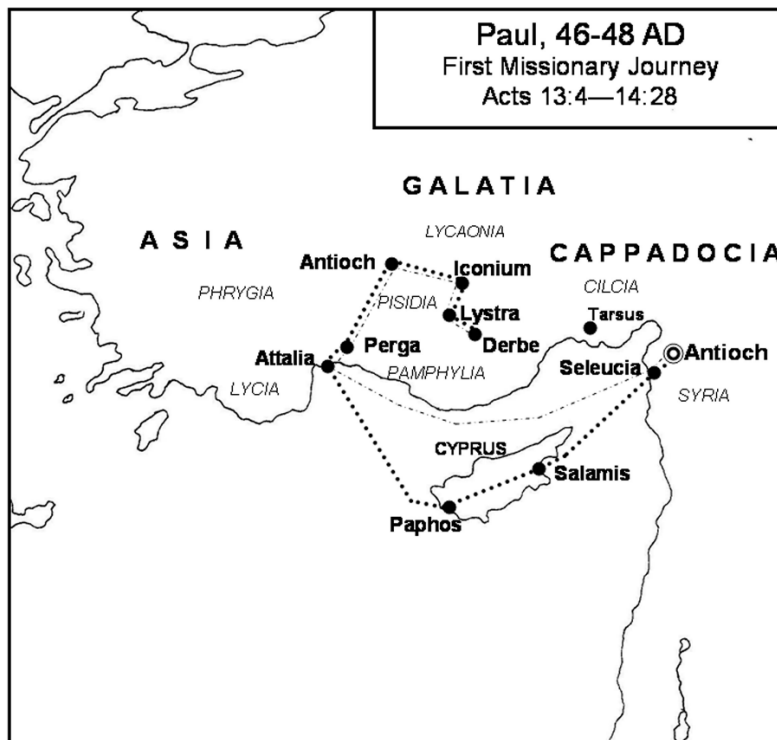
Paul uses chapter three to warn the Philippians against two imposters: legalists and libertines. The legalists were the Judaizers who wanted to promote the Law of Moses and Jewish culture as a means of salvation. Paul calls them “mutilators of the flesh” because of their zealousness for circumcision (3:2). The libertines were an antinomian group who held to the concept that the spiritual life and the physical life were separate. Living sinful, worldly lives was not a problem for them since they were spiritually pure and set apart. Paul clearly describes these as either false or severely confused Christians in 3:19.

In chapter four Paul exhorts the Philippians to continue in peace and unity. He thanks them for the financial gift they have sent. Paul gives us a description of what it means to be content in any and every situation. Independent of the circumstances, Paul says he has learned the secret of contentment and can do everything through Christ who gives him strength.

Epaphroditus → /ee-paph-roe-DI-tus/ or /eh-paph-roe-DI-tus/

Euodia → /yoo-OH-dee-uh/ or /ee - OO - daa/

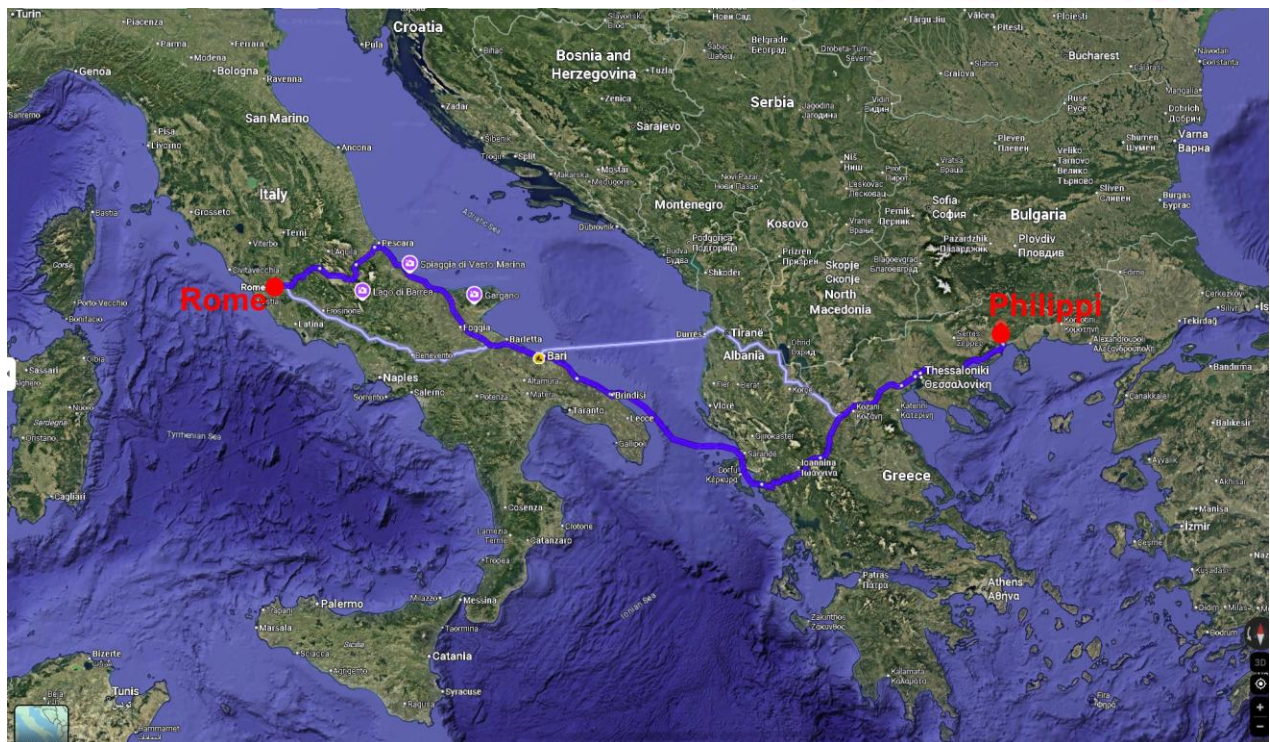
Syntychē → /SIN-tih-key/ or /SIN-tih-chee/





19 hr 25 min (799.2 mi) via Egnatia Odos

800 miles



- Acts 16
- Philippi is located about 9 mi. inland (north) of Neapolis
- Philippi was founded around 350 B.C. In 27 B.C. the city became a Roman Colony.
- After the battle of Philippi, in 42 B.C., veterans of the Roman legions settled here:
 - The Battle of Philippi, October of 42 BC, a pivotal conflict in Roman civil war after assassination of Julius Caesar. The Second Triumvirate (Octavian and Mark Antony) vs. the Liberators (Brutus and Cassius). The Triumvirs won and Brutus and Cassius died by suicide.
- Main highway from the east towards Rome, the 493-mile-long Via Egnatia, ran through the city.
- Paul again visited the city on his Third Journey (Acts 20:20).