

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus,



Paul's Letter to the

Philippians

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code may abound more and more, with knowledge and
all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be
pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”
(Philippians 1:3-11)



PHILIPPIANS

Joy No Matter What

Introduction To The Book of Philippians

● **Those IN CHRIST can HAVE TRUE JOY & PEACE:**

- Regardless of our past - (our sins or what others have done to us)
- Regardless of our circumstances - (Our physical or material condition or how others are mistreating us)

Philippians 1:3–11 (NKJV)

³ I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, ⁵ for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, 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;

Philippians 1:3–11 (NKJV)

⁷ just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace. ⁸ For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:3–11 (NKJV)

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, ¹¹ being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

THANKFUL FOR THEIR FELLOWSHIP (3-8)



● **Found memories:** (3)

- ▶ Lydia: Acts 16:14,15
- ▶ Imprisoned: Acts 16:16-24
- ▶ Jailor: Acts 16:25-34
- ▶ No details of later visit

● **Every prayer:** (4) Paul frequently and joyfully prayed for those with whom he had labored in the past “making request for them - vs. 4; cf. Col 1:3; 1 Thes. 1:2

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

THANKFUL FOR THEIR FELLOWSHIP (3-8)



Philippians 1:3-5 (NKJV)

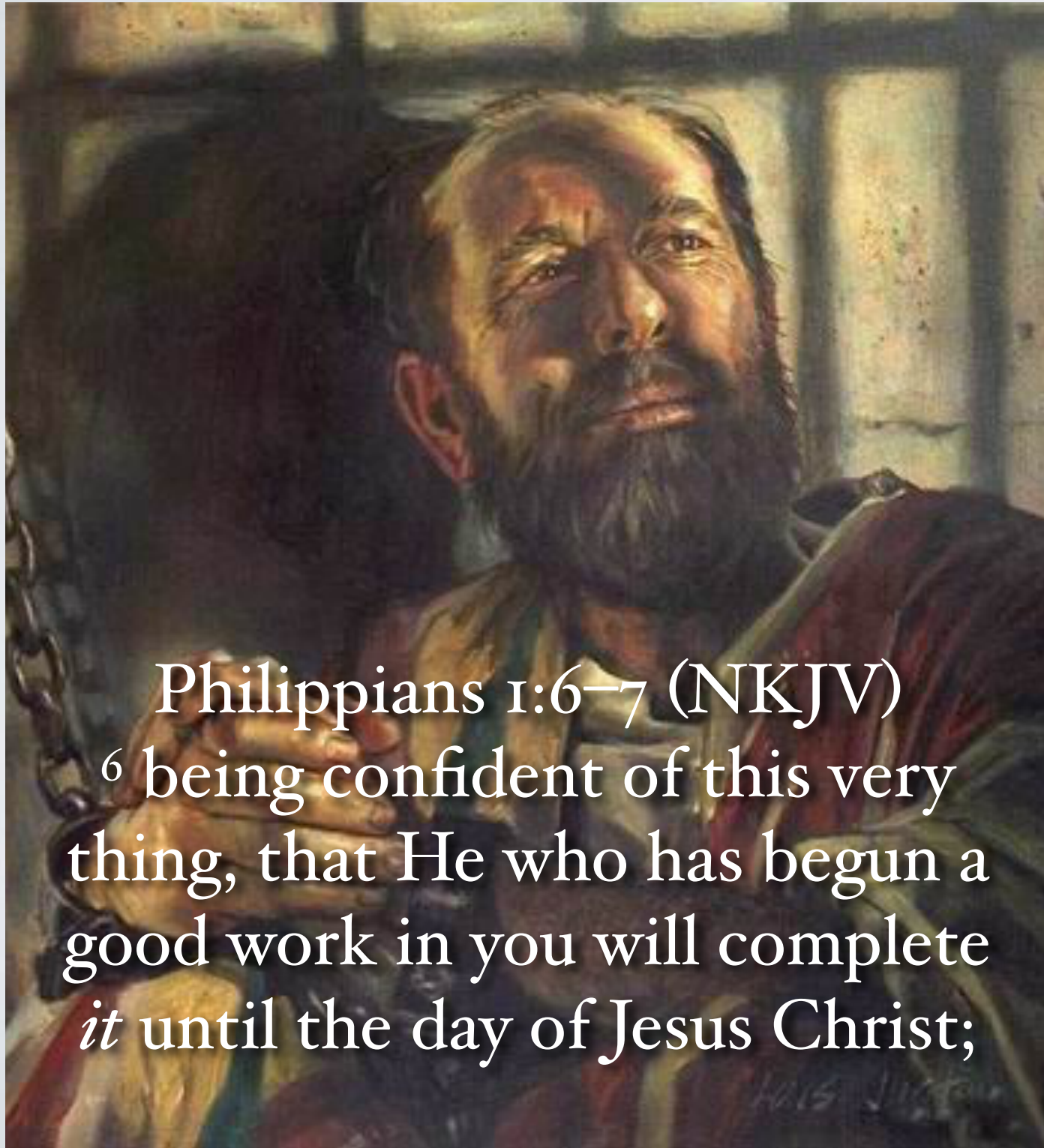
³ I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, ⁴ always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, ⁵ for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now,

• **For their fellowship in the gospel: (5)**

- ▶ Includes the "giving and receiving" when he first left Macedonia, and also in Thessalonica - Phil 4:15-16
- ▶ And now in Rome, w/ the gift sent by Epaphroditus - Philippians 4:18
- ▶ Sharing together in spreading the Word, by teaching or by supporting those who teach.

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

THANKFUL FOR THEIR FELLOWSHIP (3-8)



Philippians 1:6-7 (NKJV)

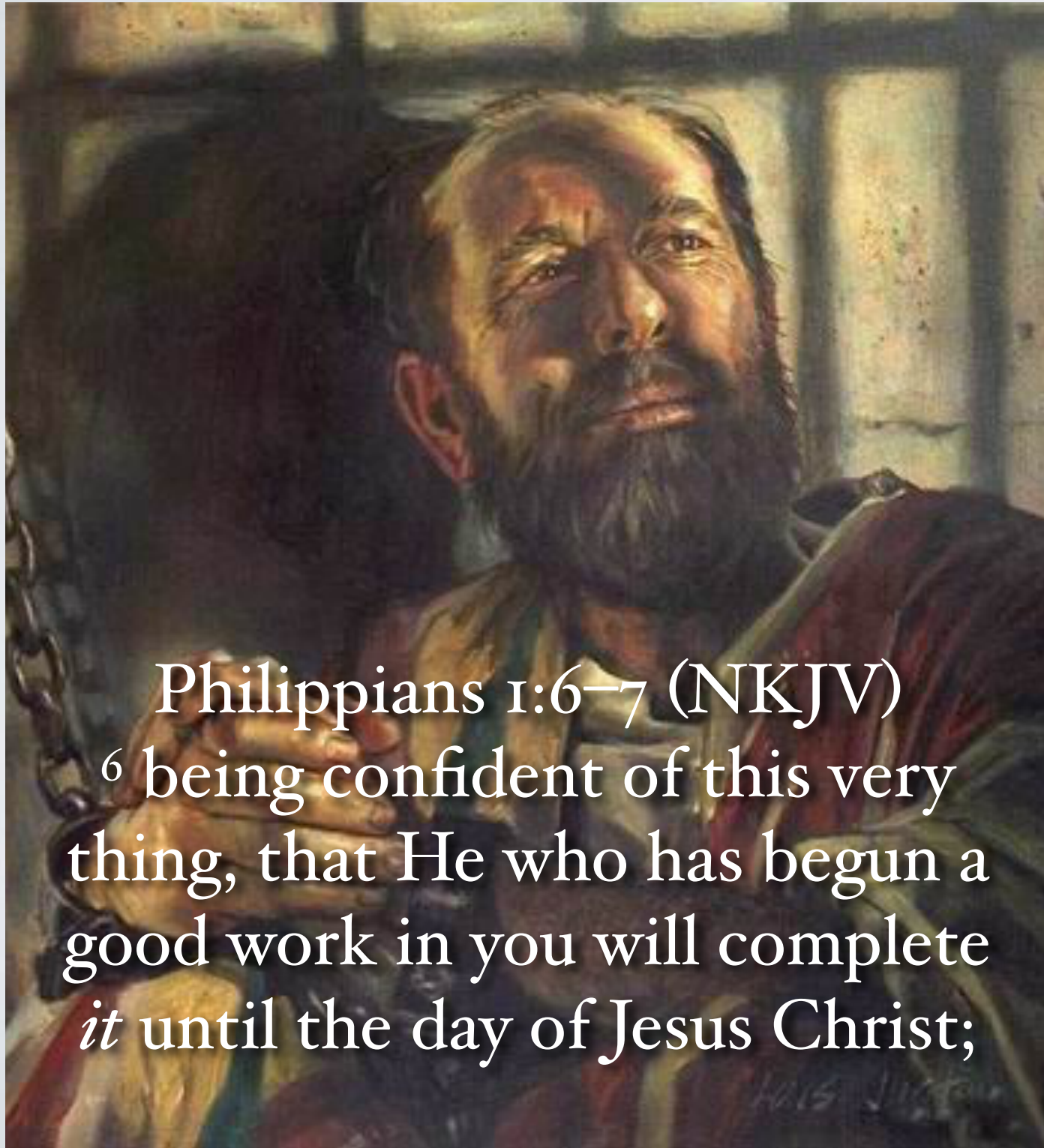
⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;

• **Being confident:** (6)

- ▶ God began a good work in them at their conversion.
- ▶ Their past (and up to the present) indicated they were serious about serving God and would continue to do so, especially in the light of the fact that this faithful service had been given even during a time of persecution (1:27-30; cf. Hebrews 6:9-10)

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

THANKFUL FOR THEIR FELLOWSHIP (3-8)



Philippians 1:6-7 (NKJV)

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;

● **Will complete it:** (6)

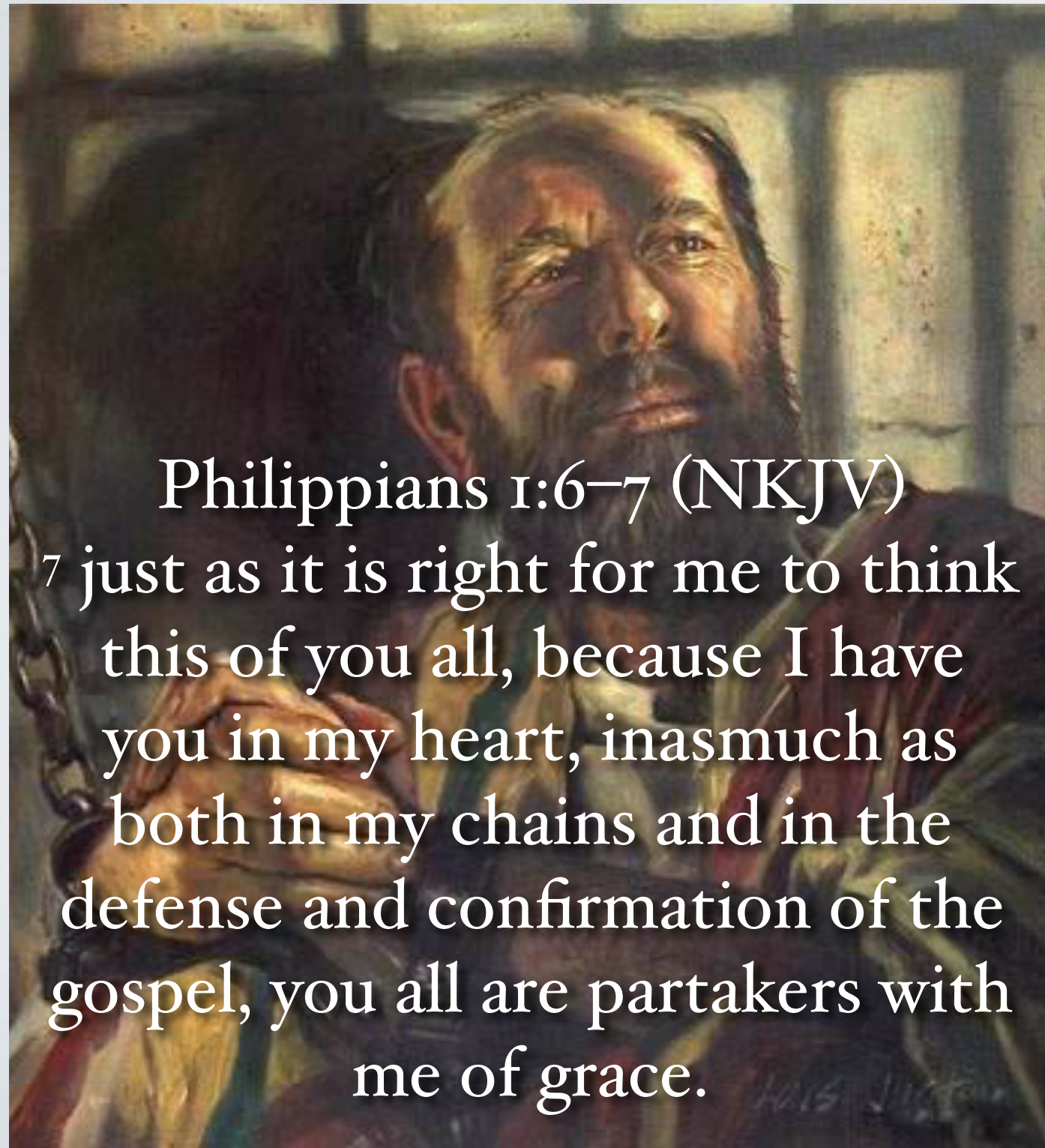
- ▶ Paul was confident that the Philippians would never waiver in their generosity, and would never cease sharing their good gifts to help spread the gospel

● **Until the day of Christ:** (6)

- ▶ With God’s help, their efforts would bear fruit until Jesus comes again - 2:16; 1 Thes 5:2; 2 Pet 3:10

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

THANKFUL FOR THEIR FELLOWSHIP (3-8)



- **It is right for me to think this: (7)**

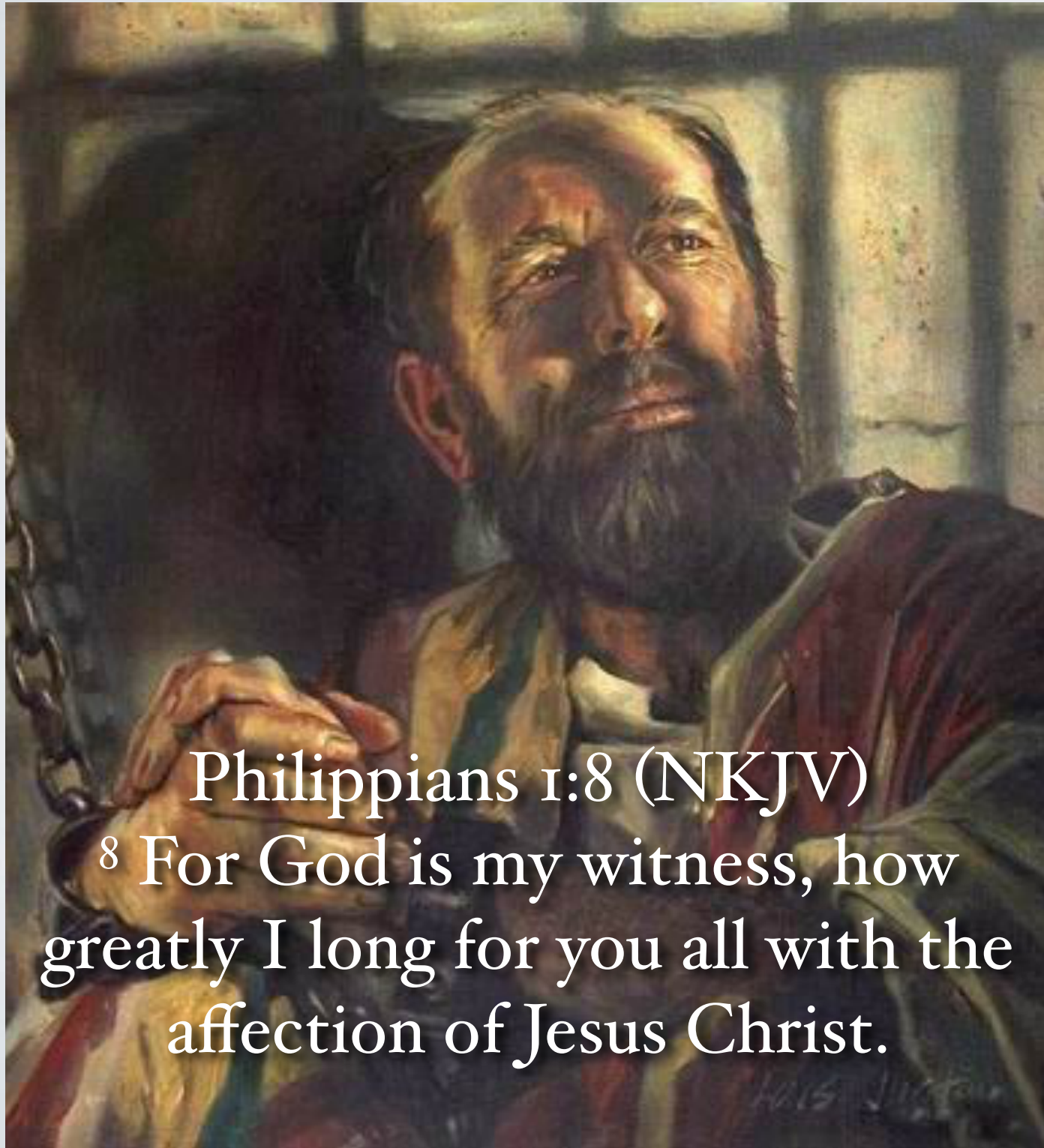
- ▶ I am justified in having this confidence - They were dear to Paul for they had been a great help & encouragement to him in trials - cf. Philippi 1:29,30; 2:25; 4:14-19)

- **You all are partakers with me of grace: (7)**

- ▶ Paul’s main concern was the spreading & defense of the gospel - same with them. ^

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

THANKFUL FOR THEIR FELLOWSHIP (3-8)



Philippians 1:8 (NKJV)

⁸ For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ.

• **How I long for you:** (8)

- ▶ Some relationships are due to common interests and sympathies. However, those which are most sacred and abiding are those which are due to a common relationship with Christ, and to an earnest cooperation in work undertaken for His sake - 1 The. 2:8; 2 Tim. 1:4
- ▶ Paul’s affection for them was patterned after the love of Jesus - Col. 3:12-14

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

PRAYER FOR THEIR FAITHFULNESS (9-11)

Philippians 1:9-11 (NKJV)

⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, ¹¹ being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

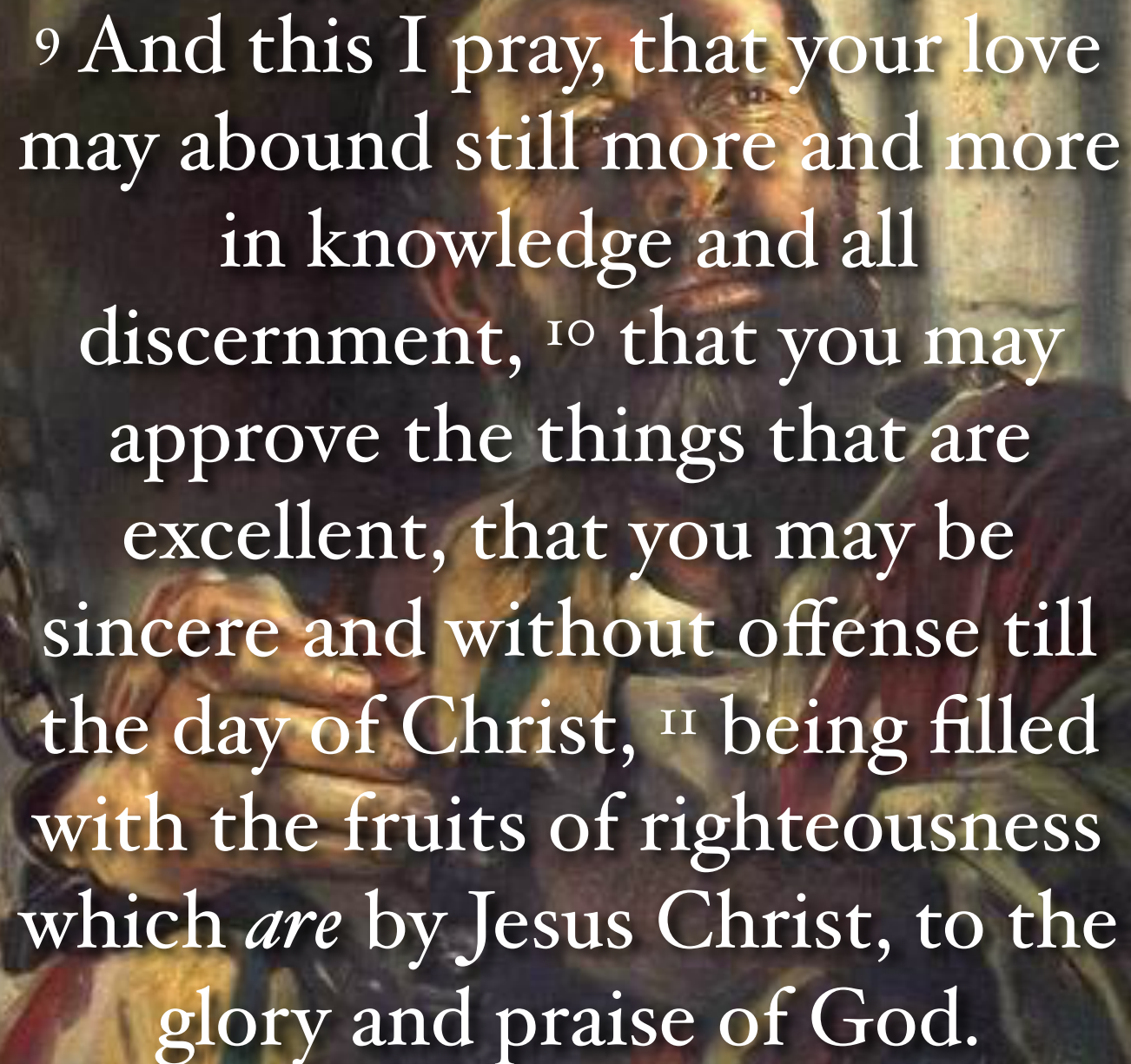
● **And this I pray:** (9)

- ▶ The apostle continually prays (present tense)
- ▶ Paul was a praying man.
 - his brethren were ever in his petitions to God. - Rom. 1:9. Eph. 1:15; Col. 1:9,10; 1 The. 1:2; etc.
- ▶ The substance of the prayers mentioned in 1:3-4 is now disclosed.

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

PRAYER FOR THEIR FAITHFULNESS (9-11)

Philippians 1:9-11 (NKJV)



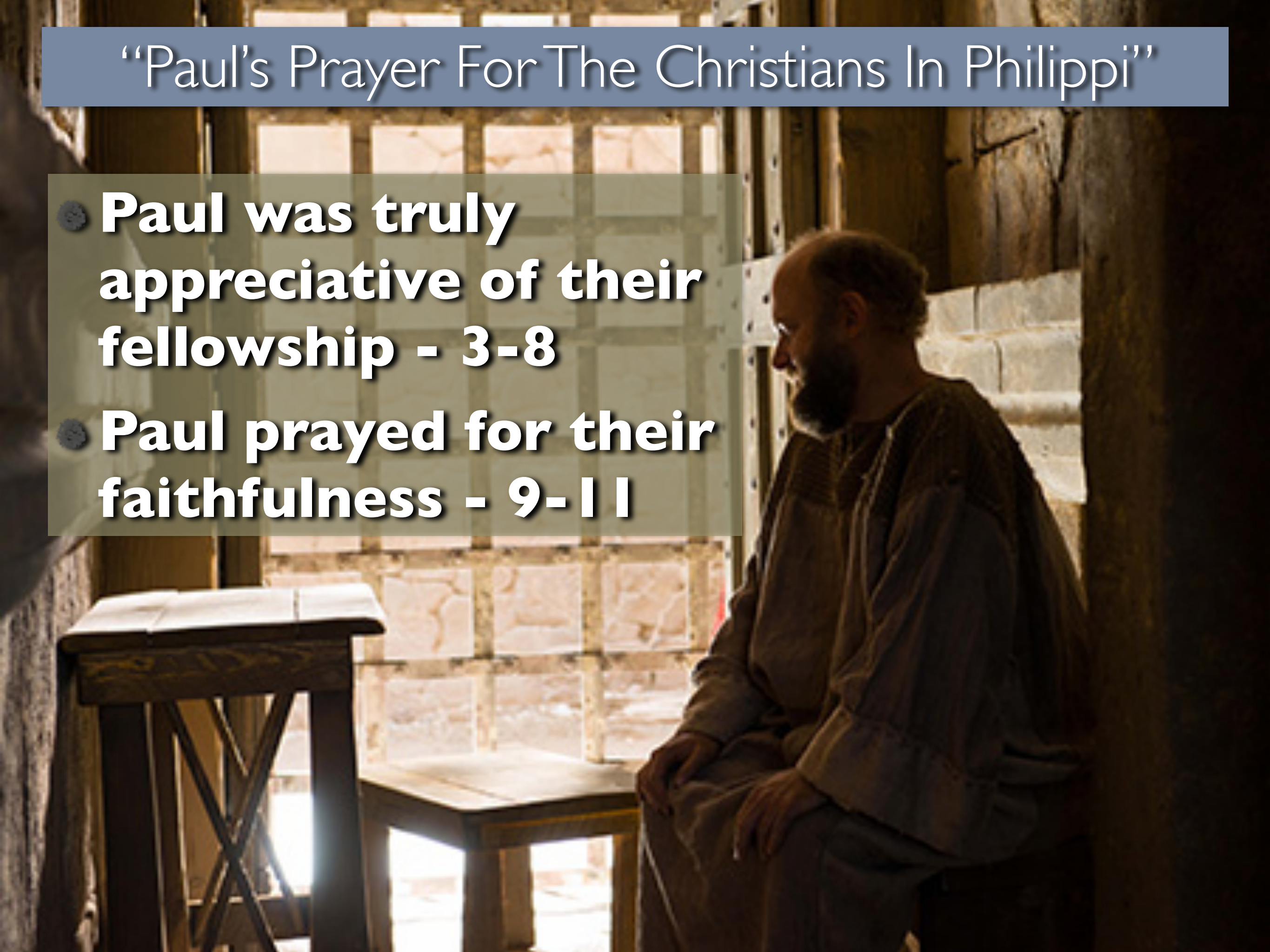
⁹ And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, ¹⁰ that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, ¹¹ being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

● **And this I pray:** (9)

- ▶ That your love may abound (9)
- ▶ Love to be motivated & governed by knowledge & discernment (9)
- ▶ Approve the things that are excellent (10)
- ▶ That you may be sincere [genuine, pure] (10)
- ▶ Without offense (10)
- ▶ Filled with fruits of righteousness (11)

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

- **Paul was truly appreciative of their fellowship - 3-8**
- **Paul prayed for their faithfulness - 9-11**



“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

- **Are we as concerned for, and committed to the furtherance of the gospel as we should be?**
- **Are we abounding in LOVE to the point our efforts in the kingdom are truly to “the glory and praise of God?”**



PHILIPPIANS — JOY NO MATTER WHAT

“Paul’s Prayer For The Christians In Philippi”

Charts by Don McClain

Preached December 17, 2017

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Acts 16:11–15 (NKJV)

¹¹ Therefore, sailing from Troas, we ran a straight course to Samothrace, and the next *day* came to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is the foremost city of that part of Macedonia, a colony. And we were staying in that city for some days. ¹³ And on the Sabbath day we went out of the city to the riverside, where prayer was customarily made; and we sat down and spoke to the women who met *there*.

Acts 16:11–15 (NKJV)

¹⁴ Now a certain woman named Lydia heard *us*. She was a seller of purple from the city of Thyatira, who worshiped God. The Lord opened her heart to heed the things spoken by Paul. ¹⁵ And when she and her household were baptized, she begged *us*, saying, “If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay.” So she persuaded us.