

"Working Out Our Own Salvation" (Philippians 2:12-18)



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)

- In 1:27 Paul had written about living the Christian life in harmony with the message on which it is based.
- He follows that with a call to show forth spiritual unity.

DEMANDS HUMILITY

What better example than JESUS?

- Knowledge /Discernment = Fruit —1:9-11
- Love for Christ / Hope in Christ = Service to Christ 1:19-24
- Standing fast in one spirit
 / Striving together for the faith of the gospel =
 Conduct worthy of the gospel 1:27
- Humility / Love = Unity —2:1-11

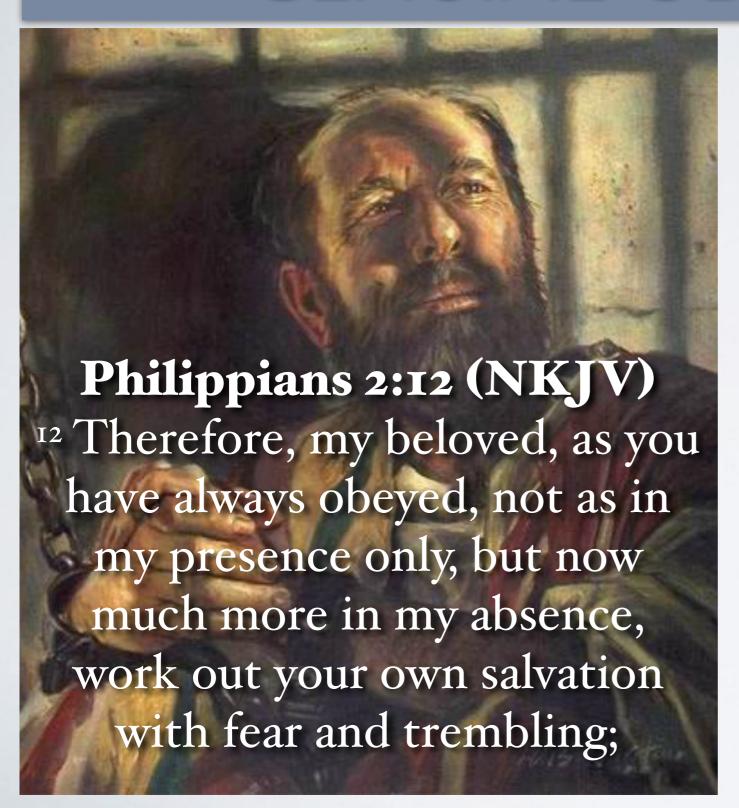


Philippians 2:12–18 (NKJV)

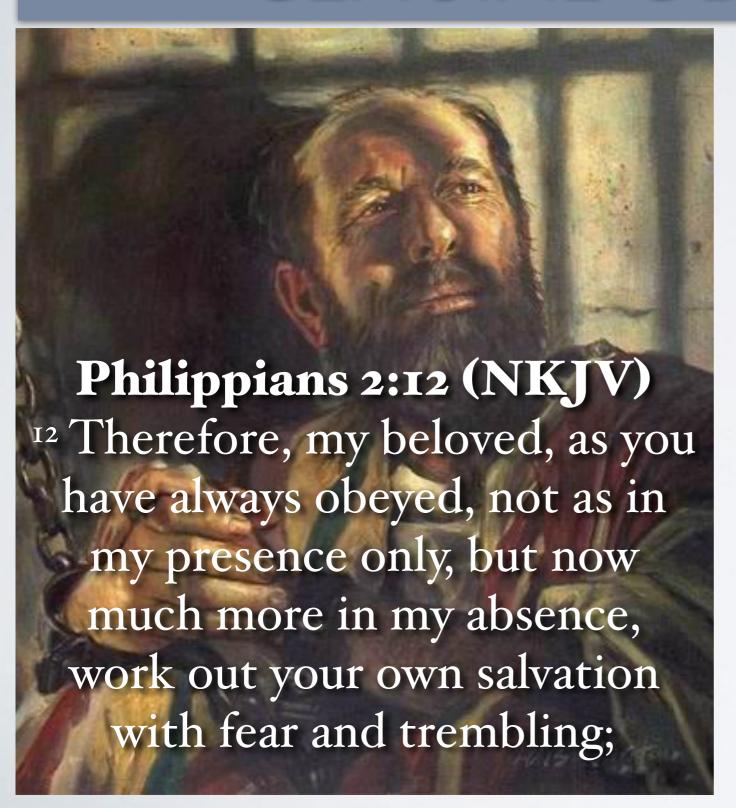
12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. 14 Do all things without complaining and disputing,

Philippians 2:12–18 (NKJV)

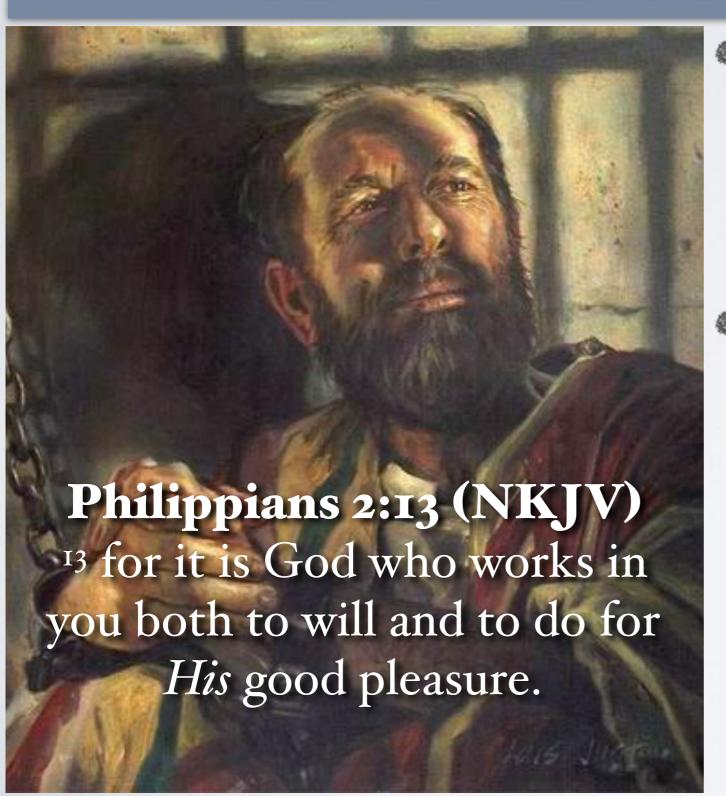
15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain. 17 Yes, and 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. 18 For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.



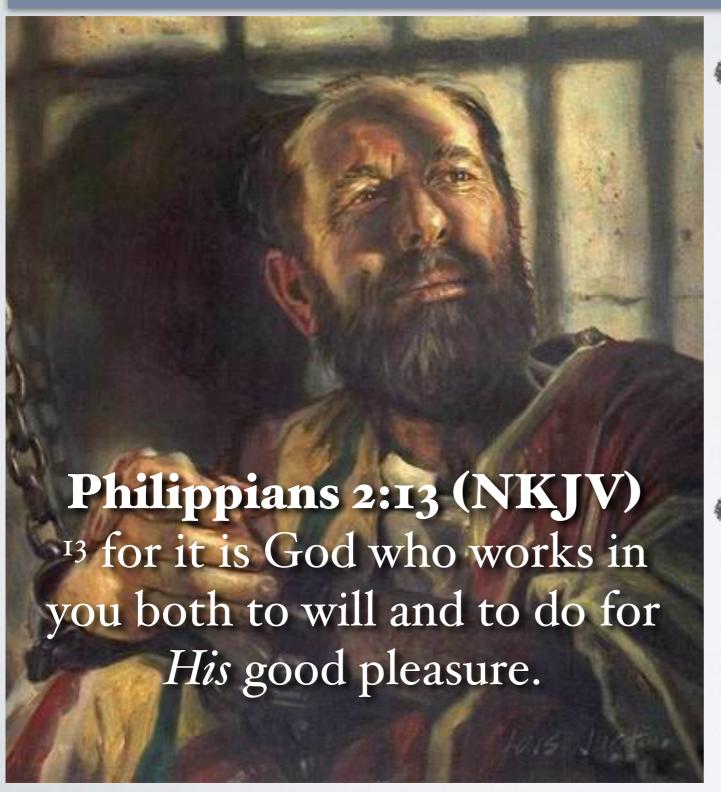
- Works without faith is just as dead as faith without works James 2:19-26
- Obedience MUST be from the heart — Romans
 6:16-18; I Peter 1:22; Hebrews I I
- The need for obedience regardless of where we are, who is with us or who knows what we are doing
 — Gen. 39:9; Dan 1:5



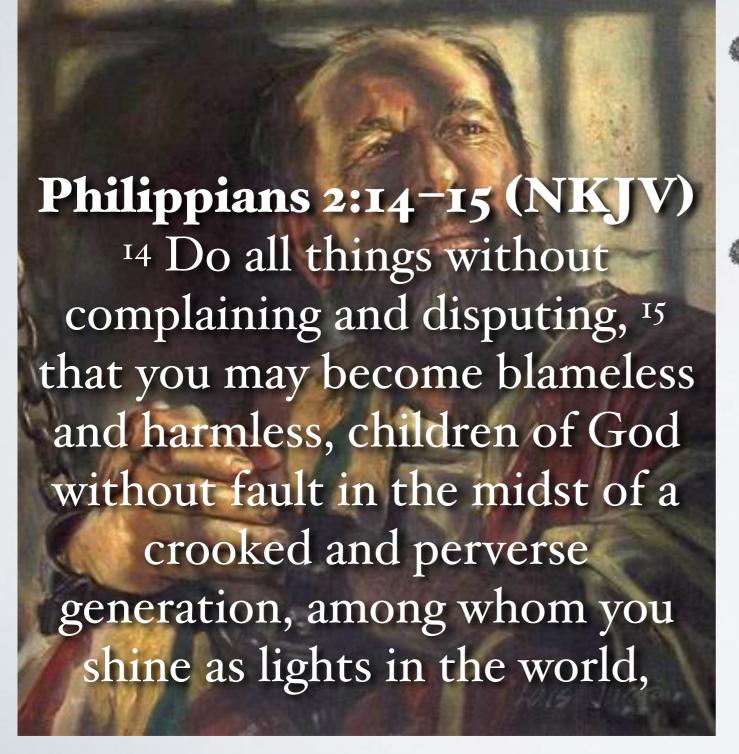
- "Work out your own salvation" Man is NOT completely passive in our salvation ch. 3:13, 14; Lu. 13:23, 24; Jno. 6:27—29. Ro. 2:7. 1 Co. 9:24—27; 15:58. Ga. 6:7—9; He. 4:11; 6:10, 11; 12:1. 2 Pe. 1:5—10
- Reverence for God and dread of falling short of what He demands of us
 Ps. 2:11; 119:120; Is.
 66:2, 5; Ep. 6:5; He. 4:1; 10:39; 12:28, 29.



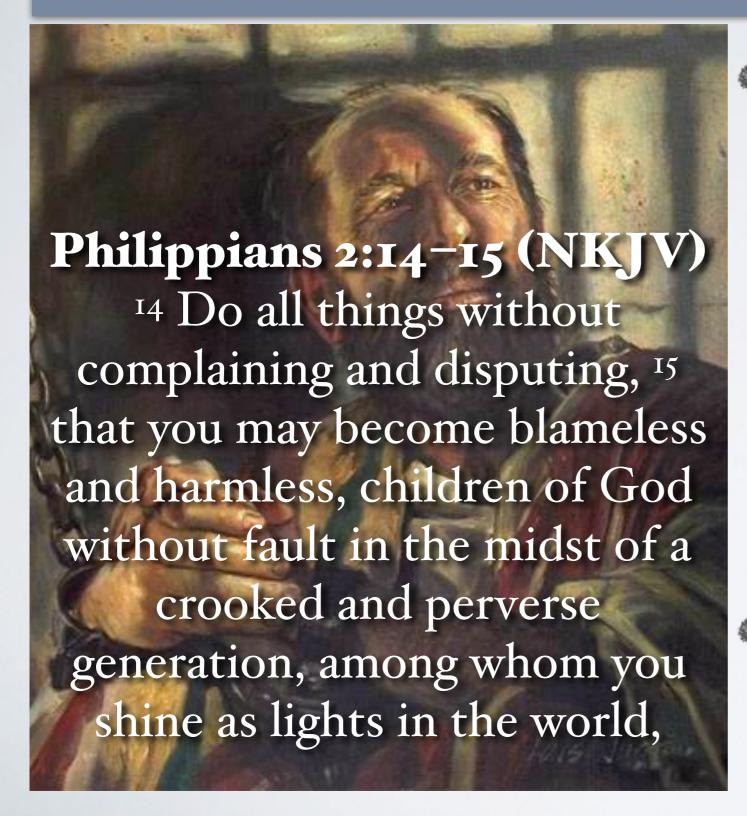
- God is at work in those who trust & obey Any effort put forth APART from God is fruitless 1 The. 2:13; Jn 15:5
- As God worked through Noah, Abraham, Joseph, Moses, Joshua, etc. to accomplish His will God will work his good pleasure in us who are willing, humble, trusting, & obedient Jn 7:17; Col 2:12,13; 1 Pet 1:22; Josh. 6; Ep. 3:16; 6:10-18; Phili. 4:13



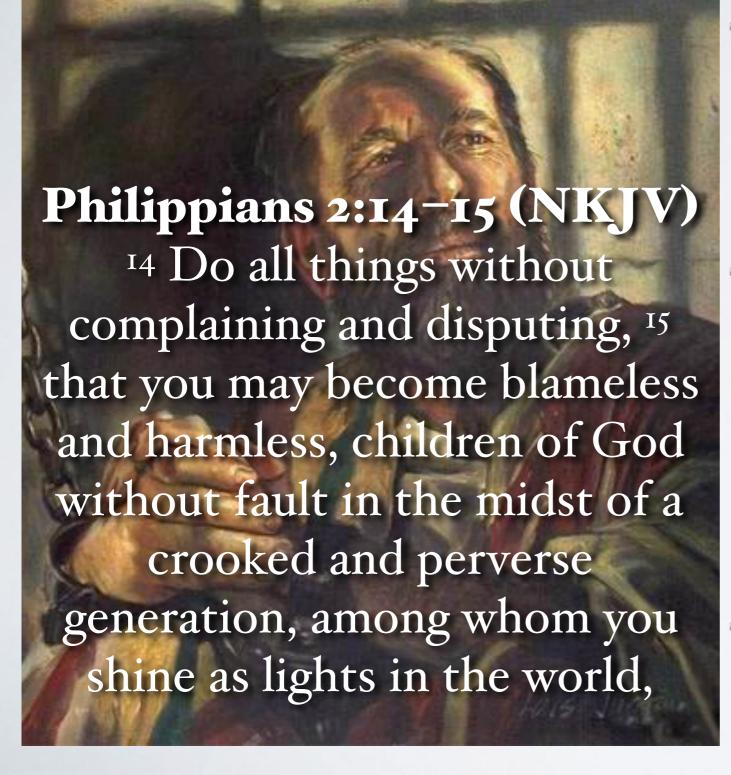
- Forced compliance is NOT the type of obedience God is seeking - God seeks and accepts ONLY willful submission — John 7:17; Rom. 6:16-18
- The gospel is God's power to save man / the preaching of the cross Rom. 1:16,17; 1 Cor. 1:18-25



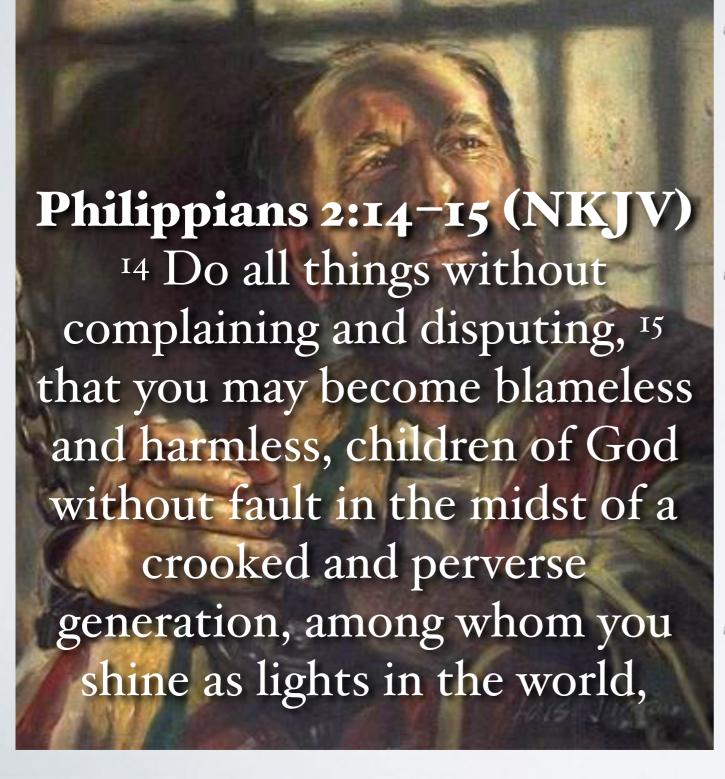
- Specific instructions on how to work out God's "good purpose" (v. 13)
- The order of the GK places emphasis on everything a believer does The present tense of the verb do suggests that this was to be done continually. 1 Cor. 15:58



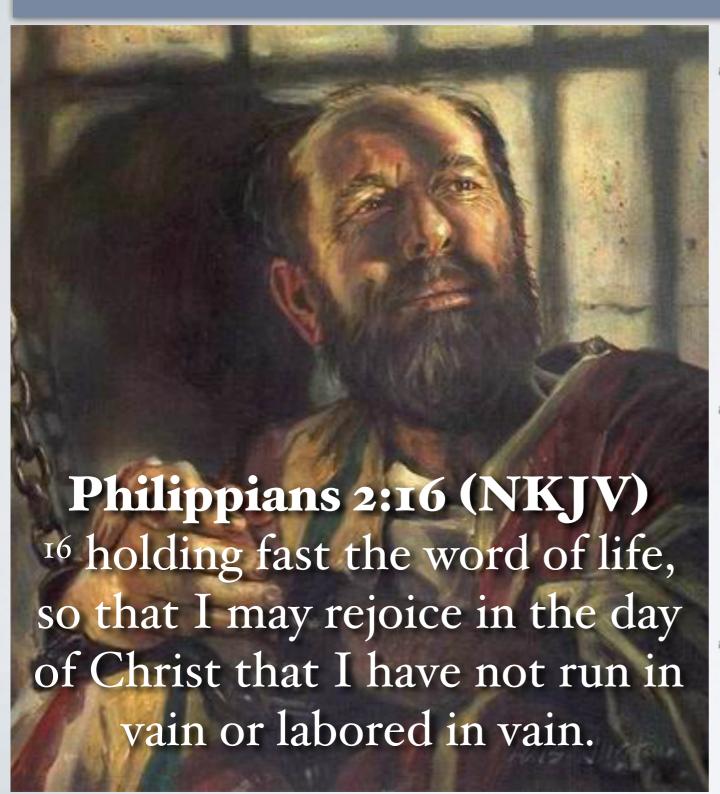
- Without complaining, (grumbling)
 - A reason for God's displeasure with Israel
 1 Cor 10:10
 - Grumbling against one another will bring self condemnation Jam 5:9; Gal 5:13-15
- Without disputing —
 (Argue over opinions) —
 Rom 14:1; 2 Cor 12:20



- Blameless (amemptoi, v. 15) means "above reproach." This does not mean sinless perfection.
- Harmless (akeraioi) Means PURE — that which had not been diluted and of metal which had not been weakened in any way.
- How much harm is done by murmuring & hypocritical Christians?

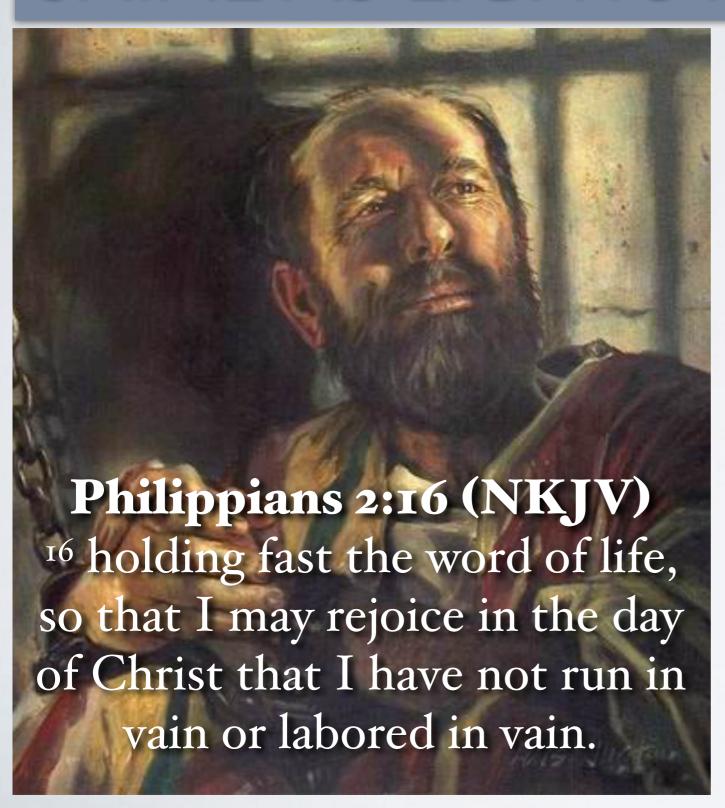


- "Children of God without fault" — God's people who truly and actually imitate Him — Eph 5:1
- "In the midst of a crooked and perverse generation" We are left in the world to be "Salt & Light" Mat. 5:13-16; John 17:15-21
- We cannot help the world if we are like it 2
 Cor 6:14-7:1; 1 Pet 1:13ff



- "holding fast the word of life" — By holding FAST to the word of life - the word shines FORTH from us into a world of darkness — Eph 5:8; 1 There 5:5; Ro. 12:1,2
- It is ONLY by abiding in Christ that we can have confidence when He comes — 1 Jn 2:28,29
- Paul's desires his efforts not be a waste — 1 Cor. 3:5-15; Gal 4:11; 1 Thes 3:5

SHINE AS LIGHTS IN THE WORLD



Philippians 2:17–18 (NKJV)

17 Yes, and 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. 18 For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

- Is our obedience GENUINE?
- Are we "working out our salvation?"
- Are we striving to live and work together in harmony?
- What of our influence on those around us? Are we SALT & LIGHT?



PHILIPPIANS — JOY NO MATTER WHAT

"The Humbled & Exalted Christ"



Charts by Don McClain

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HEBREWS 2:9-18 (NKJV)

9 But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone. 10 For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.