

What Solution to the problems faced by the Philippians does Paul offer?

1. He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ
2. Prayer: I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment
3. Challenge: approve the things that are excellent

be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ

being filled with the fruits of righteousness

become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.
4. Preach Christ from goodwill and out of love

Rejoice in this. Christ is preached.
5. God is going to deal with your adversaries. – To them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation
6. It has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake
7. Let all things be done in lowliness of mind and let each esteem others better than himself.
8. Look out for the interests of others.
9. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus

... He made Himself of no reputation

... He took the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men.

... He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.
10. 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.
11. Be 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
12. Hold fast the word of life
13. Rejoice in the Lord.
14. We are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh

15. Paul points out that he could boast in his flesh if he looked at his past.
16. Paul counted his prestigious past as a loss for Christ.
17. Paul count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, ¹¹ if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.
18. Paul did not consider himself as having already attained, or am already perfected
19. Paul considered himself as one that continued to press on, that he might lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.
20. Paul did not count himself to have apprehended; but one thing *he did*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, he pressed toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.
21. Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind; and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.
22. To *the degree* that we have already attained, let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.
23. Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.
24. For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.
25. stand fast in the Lord, beloved.
26. Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!
27. Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.
28. Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
29. Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, noble, just, pure, lovely, of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy – meditate on these things.
30. The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.
31. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

A Summary of the Solution to the Problems in Philippi

Paul encouraged the believers by reminding them that the God who began a good work in them would complete it. He prayed that their love would abound in knowledge and all discernment. He challenged them to approve the things that are excellent, to be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, and to be filled with the fruits of righteousness.

He encouraged them to become confident of his imprisonment because many were much more bold to speak the word without fear. He informed them that they should preach Christ from goodwill and out of love and to rejoice when others did it with improper motive.

Paul informed them that God is going to deal with their adversaries by meting out perdition to them and salvation to the believers. Believers not only know how to believe in Christ, but also to suffer for Him.

Let all things be done in lowliness of mind and let each esteem others better than himself. Look out for the interests of others. Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus.

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... He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for *His* good pleasure. Be 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. Hold fast the word of life. Rejoice in the Lord.

We are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh. Paul points out that he could boast in his flesh if he looked at his past. Paul counted his prestigious past as a loss for Christ.

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The Problems in Philippi:

There were men in the church in Philippi who preached Christ out of envy, strife, selfish ambition and without sincerity. Their motive for preaching was to add affliction to Paul while he was in prison. Their conduct was not worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Some brethren were not standing fast in one spirit and were not of one mind when they were striving together for the faith of the gospel.

Some were being terrified by adversaries.

The believers were doing things through selfish ambition and conceit by looking out for their own interests and neglecting the interests of others. They were doing all things with complaining and disputing and were all seeking their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.

The believers are warned to beware of dogs, evil workers, and the mutilation.

Many were walking as enemies of the cross of Christ: whose end *is* destruction, whose god *is their* belly, and *whose* glory *is* in their shame – who set their mind on earthly things.

Believers were anxious about many things.