

*A Study
on the
Epistle
to the
Philippians*

Jesse C. Jones

Table of Contents

Preface 1

Bible Study Guides for the New Testament 1

Introduction 8

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Philippians 8

Chapter 1 10

Paul's Thankfulness and Prayer for the Philippians 10

Chapter 2 13

Be like Christ 13

Chapter 3 15

Paul Gives Up Everything For Christ 15

Chapter 4 17

Paul's Closing Exhortations 17

Appendix 19

Questions from Philippians 19

Links to Other Books Available 21

Bible Study Guides for the New Testament 22

Bible Study Guides for the New Testament

Writing a book was not on my mind when this effort was initiated some years ago. In fact, it began when a member of my Sunday School class commented that his son had talked about committing suicide the previous week. As a result, I felt an urge to see what the Bible had to say about hope, with a view toward helping his son cope with his suicidal feelings. The result of that effort was an article entitled: “Hope and the Miraculous Three Pound Computer,” located in Chapter 6 of the book [After the Big Bang](#). My next writing endeavor was a fallout from a Sunday School class discussion about temptations, or trials, and their purpose in our lives. An article entitled “The Trials of Job” located in Chapter 7 of the same book resulted from that effort. After this I began to feel a prodding from the Lord to continue studying and writing. The chapters in this book document what I subsequently learned about two of God’s greatest and most marvelous creations: earth and mankind, who He made to exercise dominion over it.

Some of the material presented in these New Testament Bible Study Guides conflicts with commonly held viewpoints, and differs as well on the definitions

of some words used to explicate them. One thing I have learned through this effort is that the meaning of many of the words used in the Bible is not uniformly agreed to by expositors, and in many cases, not agreed to by the various versions of the Bible. For example, in the KJV of the old testament (OT), the word “soul” is used over 780 times. Vine’s Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words notes that in over 400 of these uses, the Hebrew word used is misinterpreted. I mention this not to heap criticism on the KJV, for it is my personal Bible, and I love it dearly, but to point out the importance of consulting Hebrew and Greek sources, and good conservative lexicons, when trying to understand difficult scripture. The meaning of some words is not absolutely clear even then. Nevertheless, this is the process I have followed in this effort.

I am a retired engineer: my education and work experience sparked a great interest in details. I found that to understand the technical difficulties and problems that arise in the operation of complex machines, a good understanding of the details of the design is absolutely necessary. What is presented herein is an analysis of important details in God’s creation of the earth and man: his habitat and milieu. However, no description is completely

adequate to portray the unbelievable complexity and efficacy of tripartite man. Scientists and engineers have tried to duplicate the various subsystems in God's design of man for years, with limited success. Part of the problem is that we do not understand many of the operational details, but the greatest impediment is probably the fact that man is composed of three parts: spirit, soul, and body, two of which (spirit and soul) are immaterial, and are thus largely beyond the scope of scientific and medical analysis. The third part, the highly complex body, is strongly influenced by these two immaterial parts. God has given mankind a great challenge in trying to understand tripartite man. What better model could we find for our study than our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ: spirit, soul and body in perfect relationship. When Jesus came to earth He emptied Himself, and was formed in the likeness and fashion of a man. Like us, He was a tripartite being, but without a sin nature. Thus, He was the perfect man, the ideal for all to emulate.

I read a book several years ago by Watchman Nee in which he made the observation that one of the primary ways God speaks to us is through our intuition. After that I began to try to follow the guidance I received in this manner, and what is presented herein is largely a result of that attempt. I

hasten to add that all readers will not agree with my conclusions. I have learned much about God's creation, and His design of man through this effort: that may be the primary purpose He had in mind. My hope is that readers will find new ideas in these words that drive them to the absolute authority: God's Word - the Bible.

As references I have used the King James Version (KJV), the New International Version (NIV), the New Living Translation (NLT), the Revised Version (RV), and Recovery Versions of the bible, as well as the Interlinear NIV Hebrew - English Old Testament (OT), and the Interlinear Greek - English New Testament (GNT). I have also used Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of Old and New Testament Words, Vincent's Word Studies in the New Testament, Moulton's Analytical Greek Lexicon, the Brown-Driver-Briggs Hebrew and English Lexicon, and Webster's New World Dictionary for word interpretation. Unless otherwise noted, scripture passages quoted are from the KJV.

The John A. Dickson New Analytical Bible and Dictionary, Authorized King James Version, Chicago 1950, was a primary reference source. This Bible was given to my wife and I in 1957, and is one of my dearest treasures. It has

been rebound once, and is in need of a repair job at the present time. Thus, the reader can appreciate the usage it has had over these 62 years, most of which has been during the last 25 years. The book introductions have been generally quoted from this source, with changes (mostly grammatical) made only when considered necessary.

Finally, I want to recognize the lady that takes everything I have written, and makes the necessary changes for placing it on the internet. Ms. Sandra Crosnoe is the daughter of two of my, and my deceased wife's, dearest friends, Ted and Jimmie Crosnoe (also deceased). When God moved us (my wife and I), to a Methodist Church in Pasadena, Texas, in 1962, Ted, Jimmie, and their two daughters were among the group of several families in the church that were touched by God in a mighty way that led to a weekly Bible study, that resulted in many changed lives. As the years passed by, and the families went in different directions, we were not able to maintain the close relationship we had in Pasadena. We settled in Lubbock, Texas, in 1982, and I got the call to start writing on the Bible. Sometime after that Sandra was in Lubbock and we got together for dinner. When she learned of my involvement in writing on the Bible she immediately volunteered to help in making it available by publishing

it on the internet. She may not have known what she was getting into, for God has not ceased from giving me Bible subjects to study and write about. This series on the New Testament has been our greatest undertaking, and Sandra's help (as always) has been essential. She has corrected my grammar, argued with me on interpretation, prepared the pictorial cover pages, and generally polished the appearance of the various books in ways that I could never have accomplished on my own. Without her help, this (and other) documents would never have been made available to the general public. I do so appreciate all her work. I believe Ted and Jimmie will give her a "well done" when she joins them in heaven. Her personal website is [Finding Gems and Sharing Them](#).

These bible study guides are available at no charge to read, print, download and share on a platform called Scribd (no membership is required to read/download). They are all listed and linked as a group in [Bible Study Guides by Jesse C. Jones on Scribd](#). Upon completion, most of them will contain study questions in the Appendix. Other works available are listed and linked with [Books for Believers and Seekers](#). If you hit a pop-up page on Scribd asking you to become a member to read free, simply click the 'x' in the upper right corner

to remove the pop-up and continue to our links on Scribd. My personal website is [Revealed by Fire - Jesse's Studies](#) if you wish to see my latest articles and updates.

It is my sincere hope that these works will guide you to a personal ongoing relationship with Jesus and a life led and anointed by the Holy Spirit.

JESSE JONES

The Epistle of Paul the Apostle to the Philippians

From the John A. Dickson New Analytical Bible

This is one of the four “Prison Epistles,” the other three are Ephesians, Colossians, and Philemon. It was in Philippi that the gospel was first preached in Europe in response to a vision Paul had from a man of Macedonia who implored, “Come over to Macedonia and help us” (Acts 16:9). Interpreting this plea as a summons from God, Paul and his party sailed for Neapolis, the port of Philippi. Philippi, the chief city in that part of Macedonia, was a Roman colony at that time (Acts 16:12). It had no synagogue so on the sabbath Paul and his party went out of the city to a riverside where there was a place of prayer. Through the kindness of Lydia, a devout convert of Paul, they were cared for.

The first conflicts about the Gospel in Europe occurred in Macedonia. Paul and Silas were accused of teaching customs which were not lawful to receive nor observe, and, after receiving many stripes, they were thrust into prison where the jailer was charged to keep them safely. They were miraculously released from prison by an earthquake and after they were released Paul used

his Roman citizenship to demand that he be treated accordingly. This was granted to him in Rome. The apostle was treated kindly by the Philippean church while he was in Rome, but there was apparently some spirit of vain-glorying and discord that this epistle was designed to correct.

Paul's Thankfulness and Prayer for the Philippians

From Paul and Timothy, servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Philippi. Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank God every time I think of you. Whenever I pray for all of you I always pray with joy, knowing that you have shared in proclaiming the Good News from the very first until now. And I am sure of this: that the One who began a good work among you will keep it growing until it is completed on the day of Christ's return. I have you in my heart; for whether I am in chains or defending the gospel, you are all sharing with me in this privileged work.

This is my prayer: that your love may more and more overflow in fullness of knowledge and depth of discernment, so you will be pure and without blame in the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ our Savior.

But I want you to know that the things that have happened to me have helped in the furtherance of the gospel. My bonds are manifest throughout the praetorian guard, and to everyone else, due to my teaching about our Savior Jesus Christ. My being in prison has given others in the Lord boldness

in speaking the word of God fearlessly. It is true that some are proclaiming Christ out of envy and strife, but others are doing it out of good will. The latter act from love, aware that I am in prison for defending the gospel; while the others speak out of impure motives, supposing they can stir up trouble for me in prison. But what difference does it make? In every way, whether honestly or in pretense, Jesus Christ is being proclaimed and in that I rejoice. For I know that this will work for my deliverance through your petition and the work of the Holy Spirit. It all works with my expectation that I have nothing to be ashamed of, but now and always, Christ will be magnified in my body whether dead or alive. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. But if by living on in the body I can do fruitful work, then I do not know which to choose. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, but nevertheless, to abide in the flesh is more needful for your sake. Having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you for your progress in the word of God, and joy in the faith, that your rejoicing may be more abundant.

Conduct your lives in a way worthy of the gospel of Christ so that whether I come and see you, or I hear about you from afar, you stand firm, united in spirit, fighting with one accord for the faith, not frightened by anything the opposition does. This will be for them an indication that they are headed for

destruction and you for deliverance. It has been granted to you not only to trust in Him, but also to suffer on His behalf, to fight the same battles you once saw me fight, and continue to do so from my present perspective.

Be like Christ

If you have any encouragement from your union with Christ, any comfort from His love, any fellowship in the Spirit, any compassion or sympathy, then fulfill my joy by sharing in a common purpose and a common love, being one in heart and mind. Do nothing through strife or out of vanity; but in humility regard others as better than yourself, and consider others' interests and not just your own.

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus. Who, being in the image of God, did not think that equality with God was something to be grasped; but made Himself of no reputation, and took on the form of a servant, with the likeness of men. He humbled Himself, and was obedient unto death, even death upon the cross. Wherefore, God exalted Him and gave Him a name which is above every other name: Jesus Christ, Son of the living God. At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in the earth, in heaven, and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. So, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed when I was with you, it is even more important that you obey now when I am

away from you. Keep working out your salvation by following the guidance received through the Holy Spirit, as God conforms you to the image of Christ (1 Thessalonians 4:3). Do all things without murmuring or dispute: that you may be blameless and harmless, sons of God, without rebuke, in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights to the world. Hold forth the word of life that I may rejoice in the day of Christ, that I have not run the race nor labored in vain.

I hope to send Timothy to you shortly so I can be of good comfort when I know your condition. I have no one that can do a better job of caring for your welfare. I hope to send Timothy as soon as I see how things go with me, but I trust in the Lord that I myself shall come shortly. I also plan to send Epaphroditus, the emissary you sent to care for my needs. Give him a joyful welcome in the Lord for he risked his life and nearly died working for Christ in order to give the help you were not in a position to give.

Paul Gives Up Everything For Christ

Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. Beware of false apostles, deceitful workers, concision (cutting off, factions, divisions). We are the true circumcision, who worship God by the Holy Spirit. Here Paul recognizes the great truth that they only are the true circumcision, whose hearts are mortified from all worldly and carnal lusts, and have no confidence in the flesh.

Although I, myself, have reason for this confidence, if anyone else thinks they have reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: I was circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; and concerning the righteousness of the law, blameless. But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss because of Christ. I also count all things to be loss because of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them to be trash, that I might gain Christ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness of Law, but through the righteousness of God by faith: that I may know Him, and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His

sufferings, having been conformed to His death; if by any means I might attain resurrection from the dead. In 1 Thessalonians 4:16, Paul refers directly to those who are raised in this resurrection as those who were *dead in Christ*.

Brethren, I do not count myself as having already achieved this, but this one thing I do, forgetting the things that are behind, and reaching for the things which are ahead, I press on for the goal: the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Brethren, join in imitating me, and pay attention to those that follow the pattern we have set for you. For there are many that are enemies of the cross of Christ whose end will be destruction. For their God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, for they mind earthly things. Our citizenship is in heaven; from whence we look for our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will change our vile body so it can be fashioned like His glorious body.

Paul's Closing Exhortations

Paul reminds the Philippians to stand fast in the Lord, and always rejoice. Let everyone see how reasonable and gentle you are. Don't worry about anything, but in prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passes all understanding shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honorable, 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.

These things, which you have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do, and the God of peace shall be with you. I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound; every where and in all things I am instructed to be full, and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer. I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Nevertheless, it was good of you to share in my trouble. And you Philippians know that in the early days of my work in spreading the Gospel, when I left Macedonia not a single

congregation shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving — only you. When I was in Thessalonica you sent aid twice. But I am not seeking gifts, rather, I am looking for what will increase the credit balance of your account. I have been paid in full, since I received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent — they are a fragrant aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, one that pleases God well. Moreover, my God will fill every need of yours according to His glorious wealth, in union with the Lord Jesus. And to God our Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Questions from Philippians

Chapter 1

1. Have you suffered for Christ's sake (verse 29)? Describe.

Chapter 2

1. Explain verses 12-13.
2. Who is Paul referring to in verse 21?

Chapter 3

1. Explain Paul's feelings in verses 10 through 13. How does this apply to us?
2. Explain verse 21.

Chapter 4

1. Do you believe that you can do everything through Christ (verse 13)?

Other Books Available

Books Available

by Jesse C. Jones

[After the "Big Bang"](#)



[A Layman's Commentary on the Revelation of Jesus Christ](#)

[A Man of God](#)

[Can God Be Known?](#)

[Dialogue With an Atheist](#)

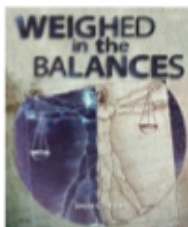
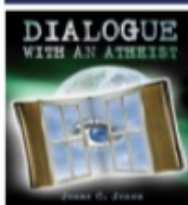
[Has God Divorced America?](#)

[The Mystery of God](#)

[The Spiritual Life](#)

[Weighed in the Balances](#)

[Bible Stumbling Blocks](#)



Note: All of the above e-books are available online and are free to download & share via [SCrosnoe on Scribd](#)

[The Path to Holiness](#)
(paperback)
available for purchase [online](#)

Links to Other Books Available

by Jesse C. Jones

[After the “Big Bang”](#)

[A Layman’s Commentary on the Revelation of Jesus Christ](#)

[A Man of God](#)

[Can God Be Known?](#)

[Dialogue With an Atheist](#)

[Has God Divorced America?](#)

[The Mystery of God](#)

[The Spiritual Life](#)

[Weighed in the Balances](#)

[Bible Stumbling Blocks](#)

Note: All of the above e-books are available online and are free to download & share via **[SCrosnoe on Scribd](#)**

**The Path to Holiness
(paperback)
available for purchase [online](#)**

Bible Study Guides for the New Testament

by Jesse C. Jones

Matthew Mark & Luke - [A Study on The Parables](#)

John – [A Study on the Gospel of John](#)

Acts – [A Study on the Acts of the Apostles](#)

Romans – [A Study on the Epistle to the Romans](#)

I Corinthians – [A Study on the First Epistle to the
Corinthians](#)

II Corinthians – [A Study on the Second Epistle to the
Corinthians](#)

Galatians – [A Study on the Epistle to the Galatians](#)

Ephesians – [A Study on the Epistle to the Ephesians](#)

Philippians - [A Study on the Epistle to the Philippians](#)

Colossians – [A Study on the Epistle to the Colossians](#)

I Thessalonians – [A Study on the First Epistle to the
Thessalonians](#)

II Thessalonians – [A Study on the Second Epistle to the Thessalonians](#)

I Timothy – [A Study on the First Epistle to Timothy](#)

II Timothy – [A Study on the Second Epistle to Timothy](#)

Titus – [A Study on the Epistle to Titus](#)

Philemon – [A Study on the Epistle to Philemon](#)

Hebrews – [A Study on the Book of Hebrews](#)

James – [A Study on the Book of James](#)

I Peter – [A Study on the Book of I Peter](#)

II Peter – [A Study on the Book of II Peter](#)

I II & III John - [A Study on the Three Epistles of John](#)

Jude – [A Study on the Epistle of Jude](#)

Revelation of Jesus Christ – [A Layman's Commentary on the Revelation of Jesus Christ](#)

This page intentionally left blank for notes.