

God's Glory in God's Word

Philippians/Colossians

Philippians Chapter 4 – Three Examples of Faith – not Flesh

1. Unity in Christ

*I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree **in the Lord**. Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life. (Php 4:2-3)*

Question: How can the flesh impact unity in the church?

Question: How can faith impact unity in the church?

2. Peace

do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. (Php 4:6-7)

Question: How can the flesh impact anxiety?

Question: How can faith impact anxiety?

3. Contentment

I rejoiced in the Lord greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. I can do all things through him who strengthens me. (Php 4:10-13)

Question: How can the flesh impact contentment?

Question: How can faith impact contentment?

Question: How does common interpretation of this passage look more like flesh than faith?

Colossians: Similarities with Ephesians

Similar Circumstances

- a. Paul is writing from prison – likely Rome.

- b. He is with Timothy
- c. The letter is delivered by Tychicus

Similar Topics

Redemption

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, (Eph 1:7)

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (Col 1:13-14)

Christ's Authority

And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. (Eph 1:22-23)

And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. (Col 1:18)

Deliverance

in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience-- among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved-- (Eph 2:2-5)

May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. (Col 1:11-14)

Forgiveness

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you. (Eph 4:32)

bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. (Col 3:13)

The Old and the New Self

Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. (Eph 4:17)

to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness. (Eph 4:22-24)

Therefore, having put away falsehood, let each one of you speak the truth with his neighbor, for we are members one of another. (Eph 4:25)

Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. (Col 3:2)



Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. On account of these the wrath of God is coming. In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. (Col 3:5-7)

Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator. (Col 3:9-10)

Relationships

Wives, submit to your own husbands, as to the Lord. (Eph 5:22)

Husbands, love your wives, as Christ loved the church and gave himself up for her, (Eph 5:25)

Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. (Eph 6:1)

Slaves, obey your earthly masters with fear and trembling, with a sincere heart, as you would Christ, (Eph 6:5)

Masters, do the same to them, and stop your threatening, knowing that he who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and that there is no partiality with him. (Eph 6:9)

Wives, submit to your husbands, as is fitting in the Lord. Husbands, love your wives, and do not be harsh with them. Children, obey your parents in everything, for this pleases the Lord. Fathers, do not provoke your children, lest they become discouraged. Slaves, obey in everything those who are your earthly masters, not by way of eye-service, as people-pleasers, but with sincerity of heart, fearing the Lord.

(Col 3:18-22)

Masters, treat your slaves justly and fairly, knowing that you also have a Master in heaven. (Col 4:1)

Next Week: Colossians Part 2

