

Letters from Jail Part 2

Philippians 1:1-2

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of
Christ Jesus,

To all God's holy people in Christ Jesus
at Philippi, together with the overseers and deacons:

2 Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ.

Grace:

Hebrew--"hased"

kindness, love, gracious forgiveness that comes from love that is
so enduring that it persists beyond any sin, always seeking to

Grace:

Greek--"charis"

that which affords joy, pleasure, delight, sweetness, charm,
loveliness, favour

Peace:

Hebrew--"Shalom"

In Hebrew, the root of the word (always in a three letter format),
and depending on the vowels that are used, has several meanings
(that are relevant to the general meaning of the word Shalom); as
for example: One meaning is "Whole", another could be the actual
verb "Pay" usually in command form. The conjugated verb has
other spins that are worth noting, such as: "Hishtalem" meaning "it
was worth it" or "Shulam" as "it was paid for" or "Meshulam" as in
"paid in advance." Hence one can jokingly say that, "when it's paid-
for then there is peace," as in PEACE HAS A PRICE.

Peace:

Greek -- "Eirene"

peace between individuals, i.e.

harmony, security, safety, prosperity

Luke 23:32-34

32 Two other men, both criminals, were also led out with him to be executed. 33 When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified him there, along with the criminals—one on his right, the other on his left. 34 Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."

Philippians 1:3-6

3 I thank my God every time I remember you. 4 In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy 5 because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, 6 being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

Philippians 1:12-26

12 Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. 13 As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard [a] and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. 14 And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

15 It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. 16 The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. 18 But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, 19 for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. 20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. 22 If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! 23 I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; 24 but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. 25 Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, 26 so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

The word joy in Hebrew had a deeper meaning to it than we understand it according to emotion and feeling. We as English speakers understand the word joy by what we feel. The Hebrew understood the word joy by what brings about such a feeling.

Joy is NOT an EVENT (Romans 14:17a)

For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking,
Joy is a state of being (Romans 14:17b)

but of righteousness, peace and joy in the Holy Spirit

The Bible couples joy with the earnestness of life, in striking contrast to paganism, which at times encourages wanton indulgence in sensual pleasures by rendering wild orgies of passion features of the worship of its lustful deities, and at other times turns to the opposite extreme of absolute world-contempt and avoidance of every healthful enjoyment.

–Jewish Encyclopedia