

INTRODUCTION

1. Epistles to churches in tribulation, en route to Promised Land. Phil 4:4-9.

1st: No Matter What Happens

1. Phillippi - an encouraging church. Acts 16. No synagogue: wmn's pr mtg - Lydia [A16:14]. Church started in her home - recall Phillipian jailor.
2. A generous, giving church - supported Paul; famine relief; helped Paul in prison [Phil 2:19-30]. Paul hopes to be released. Encourages perseverance.
3. Possible thesis statement - 1:27.
 - i. *Only* - NIV *whatever happens - conduct yourselves worthy of the gospel*
 - ii. *conduct yourselves* - act as a citizen of Kg Jesus' kingdom
 - iii. *in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ* - worthy = corresponding to
4. Paul was attacked by a mob; beaten w/ rods & imprisoned. *Whatever happens*

2nd: Live in Union with Christ and One Another

1. Call for unity - 1:27 a unity that results from living in union w/ Jesus Christ
2. 2:1,2 & 2:3-5 - a life lived for others: humble, self-sacrificial - corresponding to Jesus' humility & self-sacrifice. 2:6-8
3. Living in union w/ Jesus means living in union w/ one another.
4. What is Paul saying to us in our time of turmoil? Hb 10:23-25
5. Come to the table & ask Jesus to teach you how to be humble & self-sacrificial in service to others - no matter what happens.