

**INTRODUCTION**

**A. MISSIONARY LETTERS: Galatians(c15); 1,2 Thessalonians(c18); 1,2 Corinthians(c21); Romans(c21)**

**B. ROMAN JAIL** (Acts 28:16; 30,31; see 24:27)

**C. PRISON LETTERS: Ephesians, Colossians, Philippians, Philemon**

**D. FINAL LETTERS: 1 Timothy, Titus, 2 Timothy** (the Pastoral Letters)

**LETTERS FROM A ROMAN JAIL: PHILIPPIANS** (Acts 28:16f,30f; see Phil.1:1 (2:7); see 1:7,13,14,17; see 4:14)

**A. PAUL'S CONNECTION TO THE PHILIPPIANS** (Acts 16:12f (1Th.2:2); 20:6)

**B. A FEW OF MY FAVORITE THINGS** (1:6,18; 2:3f; 2:12,13; 3:8,13f,20f; 4:4-7, 13)

**C. JOY! IN THE MIDST OF SORROW** (1:4,25; 2:2,17,18,29; 4:1; see 1:18; 2:17,18,28; 3:1; 4:4,10)

1. remembering *joyful* past in sorrowful present (1:1-11; 4:10-23)

2. confessing *joyful* message from sorrowful messengers (1:12-20; contrast 3:2f)

3. anticipating *joyful* future out of sorrowful present (1:19-26)

4. encouraging *joyful* unity out of sorrowful division (1:27-2:18; see 4:1-3)

5. encouraging *joy* out of anxiety by means of prayer (4:4-9)

6. confessing *joy* in their generous and persevering care (4:10-20; see Acts 18:5; 2Cor.8:1f)

**D. CORE FOCUS: THE MEANS TO JOYFUL UNITY** (1:27-3:21)

**JOY TO THE WORLD!** (1:27-3:21; see 2Cor.9:15; see Mt.2:10; Lk.2:10)

**A. THE JOY! OF CHRISTIAN UNITY** (1:27; 2:2; see Ps.133; 1Cor.12:25; contrast 1:17; 4:2; Gal.5:15)

**B. THE BENEFITS OF CHRIST** (2:1; see 4:13; Eph.2:14f; 4:25,31,32)

**C. THE VIRTUES OF "CHRIST-INS"** (2,3; see 1:27; 4:2; esp. Rom.12:16; see Rom.6:3f; 1Cor.12:13)

**D. THE PRACTICE OF CHRISTIAN UNITY** (3,4; see Rom.12:10)

**E. THE INTENTION OF THE INCARNATION** (5-8 /Mk.10:45; Jn.13:4f /Col.1:19; 2:9; Heb.1:3; 2Cor.4:4,6)

**F. THE CONCLUSION OF THE INCARNATION** (9-11; see Rom.8:17; Rev.3:21)

**G. THE APPLICATION OF THE INCARNATION** (12-18; see 1:27-2:4; Mk.10:42-45; Jn.13:12-17)

**H. THE EXAMPLES OF APPLICATION** (2:19f(20-22); 2:25f(30); 3:3f,7-11;17f,21 with 2:17,18)

**CONCLUSION: JOYFULLY FOLLOW JESUS IN HIS INCARNATION!** (2:5f; 1:27-2:16; see 2:19f; 25f; 3:4f w/2:17,18; see Mk.10:42-45; Jn.13:4-17; see Rom.12:10,16)

Discussion question:

Brethren, `what shall WE do? (see Acts 2:37f)