



Welcome!

Welcome to our study of the Book of Philippians, Paul's letter of joy! This is one of the simplest Epistles in the New Testament, containing only 104 verses. Paul is not writing to reprimand the Philippians or to deal with any complicated problems, but to express his joy and to encourage them to have joy also. His words are written from one friend to another. Known as one of Paul's prison Epistles, it's difficult to image he's in prison as you read through this book. He's excited, he's encouraged, and he's rejoicing in the Lord Jesus Christ. Sounds more like he's sitting in his parlor than a prison. I don't know about you, but if I was in prison, waiting for my trial, my letter may sound a little else "happy." But Paul's faith in God was unwavering and unshakable. I believe Paul ached for God. He wasn't afraid of the present because he was assured of the future. Philippians 1:21 gives us a glimpse of Paul's heart. It says, "For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Do you believe that?

Our prayer for you over the next few weeks is that you'll understand why Paul had so much joy in his heart, and that you will find yourself rejoicing in Jesus along with him. May the Holy Spirit empower you, stir you, and enlighten you as you spend time in His Word.