PAUL'S PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Philippians 1:1-6

Theme: Paul praised the believers in Philippi for their work in the gospel, and he encouraged them regarding their hope in heaven.

1. **PAUL'S <u>JOYFUL</u> <u>PRAYER</u> OF <u>THANKGIVING</u> (v3-4)**

   He thanked God for the work of the gospel that was accomplished in them.

   He was filled with wonderful memories of them all.

   Although imprisoned he experienced – not depression – but a deep joy that sprung from his relationship with Christ.

2. **PAUL'S PRAISE FOR THEIR <u>PARTNERSHIP</u> IN THE <u>GOSPEL</u> (v5)**

   Another reason for thanksgiving was their participation with Paul in the Gospel.

   He is also talking about their financial support.

3. **PAUL'S <u>CONFIDENCE</u> IN <u>GOD'S PRESERVATION</u> (v6)**

   Their future in heaven was guaranteed.

   He pointed them to "the day of Jesus Christ"

HOME BIBLE STUDY NOTES

1. Explain why Paul was so thankful to God. What was the primary reason for his rejoicing in the Philippians?

2. Paul was in prison. What type of joy did Paul experience and where did it come from? (See Gal 5:22; Rom 14:17; Phi 4:4)

3. Why did the Philippians become partners in Paul's work? What are some other synonyms for the word "partnership"? Can you give examples of how they partnered with Paul? What is Paul primarily talking about when he mentioned the word "partnership"? (See Phi 4:14-16)

4. Why was Paul so thankful for the financial support he received? Was it only because his immediate needs were met, or was it something else? What does this reveal of the character of the Philippians?

5. The Philippians also took up offerings for the people in Jerusalem. (Rom 15:26-27; 2 Cor 8:1-5; 2 Cor 9:13) What did Paul have to say about them?

6. Were their contributions to the gospel sporadic? See v4.

7. In v6 what is Paul pointing the believers to? Why was Paul so confident that they would all ultimately make it into heaven? (Joh 10:27-28; Rom 8:37-39; Psalm 138:8)

Our acceptance before God is forever based not on our performance, but on _____ perfect performance. (fill in the blank)