

Philippians

Lesson #17, Chapter 4:15-23

Rich, life-changing truths await us in the final verses of the book of Philippians. Be sure to ask the Lord for His grace and help as you complete your final lesson in this God-exalting book.

1. Philippians 4:10-14 flows right into our passage for this lesson. By way of review, look at verse 10 to see why Paul rejoiced. What was the reason?
2. Paul was quick to reassure the Philippians of an important truth he had learned. What was it? See verses 11-13.
3. What commendation did the Philippians' receive from Paul? See verse 14.
4. What do we learn about the Philippian believers according to Philippians 4:15-16?
5. The gracious gift Paul received from the Philippians had far-reaching effects for the Thessalonian and Corinthian believers too. What did the Philippians' gift allow Paul to do according to 2 Corinthians 11:8-12; 12:11-18; 1 Thessalonians 2:9; 2 Thessalonians 3:8?
6. What truths and attitudes seemed to have undergirded the Philippians' giving? See Matthew 6:19-21; Hebrews 10:32-34; 13:5-6; 2 Corinthians 8:1-5; 1 Timothy 6:17-19.

"We Give Thee But Thine Own"
by William W. How, 1823-1897

We give Thee but Thine own,
Whate'er the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone,
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

11. How does Paul continue to encourage the Philippians in verse 19? List *at least 4* observations you can make about Philippians 4:19.

12. Define *supply* [Strong's #4137 (NIV *meet*)].

13. How does reading verse 19 in its context of Philippians 4:15-20 help protect us from treating God like a cosmic vending machine? Based on what Paul has been saying in this passage, what attitudes and thoughts should guide our understanding about verse 19?

"Paul does not see this gift as simply coming from Philippi. He sees it as the supply of his need from heaven." ~Warren Wiersbe¹

14. There are so many truths packed into that little sentence in Philippians 4:19! Paul deals with the same truths in a more in-depth way in 2 Corinthians 9:6-15. Read through the 2 Corinthians passage and note what you learn about God and the principles for giving in the passage.

¹ Warren W. Wiersbe, *The Bible Exposition Commentary*, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1996), 99.

21. John MacArthur provides some insight into why Paul desires *grace* for the believers. He writes, “Believers are not only saved by grace, but also sustained by grace. They are governed by grace, guided by grace, kept by grace, strengthened by grace, sanctified by grace, and enabled by grace. They are constantly dependent on the forgiveness, comfort, peace, joy, boldness, and instruction that come through God’s grace.”³ How does Paul’s blessing grow in scope as you consider all that is meant in the simple words, “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit”?

22. Take some time to review the letter to the Philippians. What things have stood out to you as you have studied this book? What admonitions or lessons do you want to continue to think on and apply after you complete your study of Philippians?

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Philippians 4:23

³ John F. MacArthur Jr., *Philippians*, MacArthur New Testament Commentary (Chicago: Moody Press, 2001), 318.