

Epistle to the Philippians 4:10-23

Session Outline

Joyful partnerships (4:1-23)
God's spiritual provision (4:2-9)
God's material provision (4:10-23)
 Workers' needs (4:10-13)
 Givers' gifts (4:14-18a)
 God's glory (4:14b-20)



The needy rejoice

¹⁰ The Lord causes me to rejoice greatly that you now have already revived your concern for me. Although you were concerned for me, you had no opportunity to send help for me.

- Rejoice: Timeless verb form.
- Concern: 'Thinking about'.
- Opportunity: To send someone.

The needy remain content

¹¹ I do not talk about my needs, for I have learned to be content regardless.

^{12a} I know how to survive, and I know how to thrive.

- Needs: Hierarchy of needs.
- Survive: When poor.
- Thrive: When prospering.



Workers' needs

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| • Transport | • Health & medical |
| • Lodging | • Taxes & fees |
| • Food & drink | • Bibles & books |
| • Clothing | • Helpers |
| • Tools & materials | • Works of mercy |

NOTE: Increasing number of 'missionaries' are self-supporting, applying low-cost, reproducible methods.

Organizational Requirements

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| • Administration | • Bibles & books |
| • Salary & pension | • Furlough |
| • Vehicle & home | • Works of mercy |
| • Retirement | • Field projects |
| • Insurances | • Institutions |
| • Children's ed. | • Worker subsidies |

The needy remain strong

^{12b} In everything, I have learned the secret both to be filled and to go hungry, both to abound and to be in need. ¹³ I am able to do all this by Messiah who strengthens me.

- Secret: 'Initiated'.
- Able: Inner strength.
- Strengthens: Outer source (*dynamis*)

Givers enjoy sharing

¹⁴ Still, you did well by sharing with me in my trouble. ¹⁵ And you Philippians know that when I first left Macedonia to spread the Good News, you were the only church that shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving.

- Church: ² Corinthians 11:8-9
- Receiving: Who? From whom?

Givers meet needs

¹⁶ You also know that, while I was in Thessalonica, you sent help once and twice to meet my needs.

¹⁷ I am not hoping for another gift from you, but to gather more fruit for your account.

- Gift: Work for free, not a salary.
- Fruit: More work gets more results.
- Account: Givers share in rewards.

Receivers reply to givers

¹⁸ I have received the full sum, and my needs are more than met. I have all that I need, having received from Epaphroditus what you sent: a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God.

- Acceptable: Ritually clean.
- Pleasing: Beyond the minimum.

Permutatio

"From Lucius Argentarius, banker in Philippi, to Gaius Numularius, banker in Rome, greetings. On the Kalends of April, in the consulship of Titus Flavius and Marcus Aurelius, I have received from Epaphroditus Philippius the sum of 1,000 denarii. Pay to Epaphroditus Philippius the said sum of 1,000 denarii, less the customary fee of 2%, upon presentation of this letter in Rome. Sealed by Lucius Argentarius, witnessed by Quintus Fabius."

Receivers edify givers

¹⁹ And my God will supply your every need from his amazing riches because you belong to Messiah Jesus. And we shall be amazed at God our Father forever and ever. Amen!

- My god: To whom I pray.
- Amazing: 'In glory', near to him.
- Amazed: Enjoying him more than...

'In glory' (most versions)

- Moses and Elijah appeared in glory with Jesus atop Mount Hermon. Luke 9:31
- The body is sown in dishonor ... raised in glory. 1Cor 15:43
- The ministry of righteousness exceeds in glory that of condemnation. 2Cor 3:9
- When Christ appears, you also will appear with him in glory. Col 3:4
- Came in the flesh, taken up in glory. 1Tim 3:16

They greet one another

²¹ Greet every one of Messiah Jesus' holy people. The Christians who are here with me greet you.

²² All the holy people here greet you, especially those who work in Caesar's household.

- Greet: Sign of affection or of respect.
- Holy: Belonging exclusively to someone.

Gracious Spirit

²³ "I pray that the Lord, Messiah Jesus, give you grace by the Spirit who dwells among you. Amen."

- Spirit: Each one's spirit/attitude? The Spirit who is in you? Your community attitude?