

Philippians 1:12-30

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others from goodwill. ¹⁶ These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defense of the gospel; ¹⁷ the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. ¹⁸ What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true; and in that I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, ¹⁹ for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance. ²⁰ It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death.

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Theme #1: Unity

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Theme #2: Joy

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Theme #3: Preparation, growth and the end game

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Theme #4: Selflessness and suffering

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Theme #5: *Shame and honor*

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Paul, his friends and his enemies

Friends	Enemies	Paul
Confident in sharing the gospel	Selfish ambition	Bold and rejoicing
Goodwill toward Paul	Insincerity	Eagerly expectant; hopeful
Joy in faith	Envy	Desires to be with Christ
	Rivalry	Convinced he'll live, for their sake

- We know from Romans that the Roman church had Jewish-Christian and Gentile-Christian factions
- Paul in Romans tries to unify them by reining in Gentiles on things that don't matter, and convince the Jews of the obsolescence of Jewish boundary markers
- The enemies are likely those Jewish Christians who either are ashamed of Paul's imprisonment or who cling to the boundary markers
- Unlike later in Philippians, here the enemies are at least preaching a true gospel

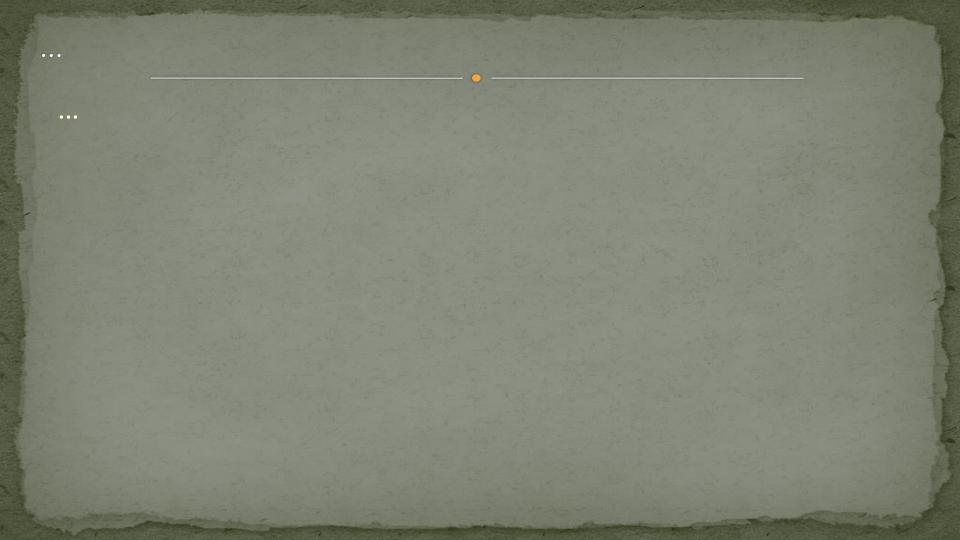
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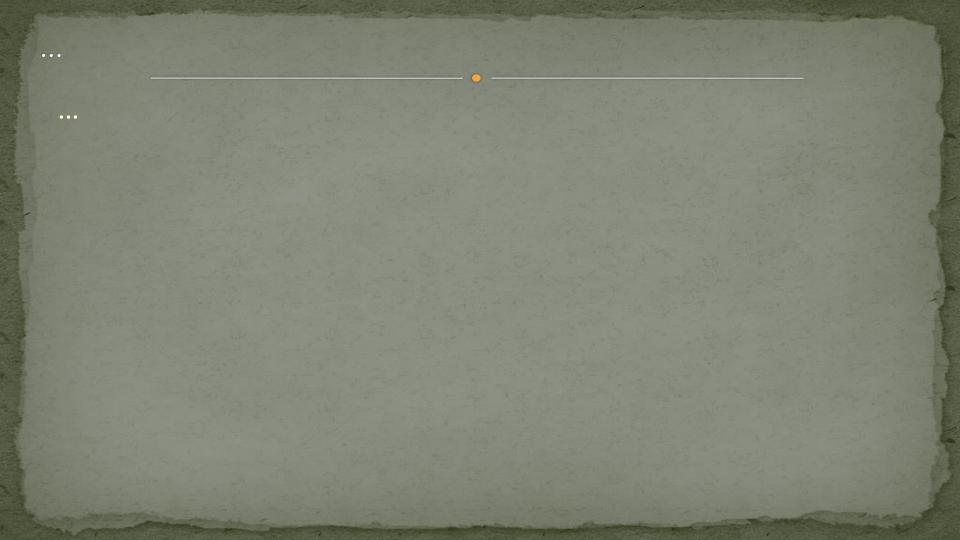
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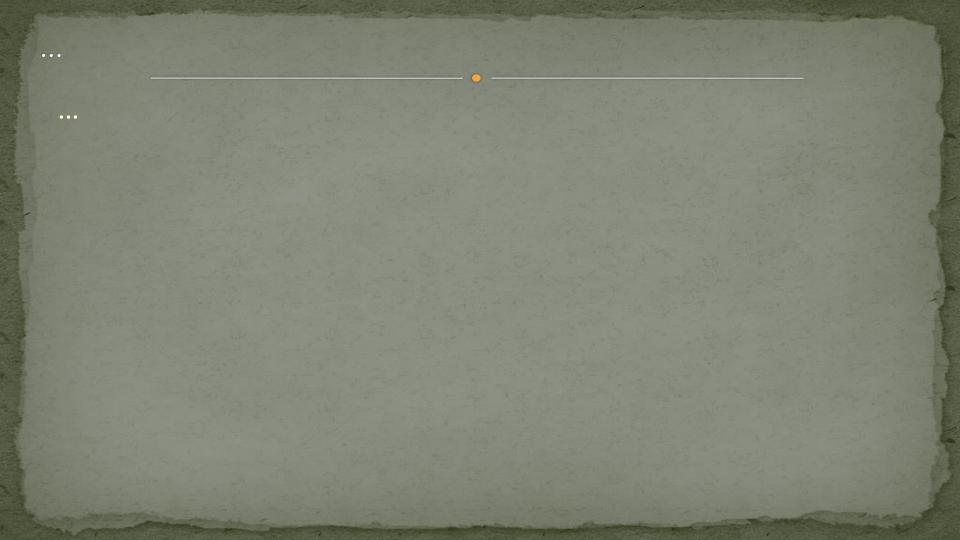
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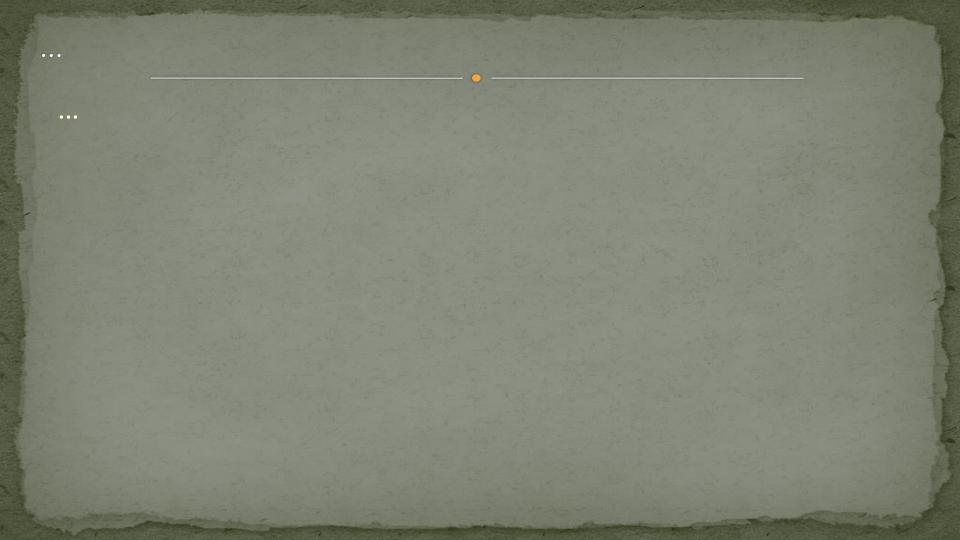
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Introduction to Philippians

Outline:

- The Backstory
 - Philippi
- Ancient letter writing

Philippians is a prototypical

"friendship letter"

• Standard education in antiquity included over a dozen standard letter forms

- Friendship letters were a common form reinforcing an agreement of mutual support and affection
- Friendship letters had a typical structure:
 - Address and greeting
 - Prayer
 - Reassurance about the sender
 - Request for reassurance about the recipient
 - General info (body)
 - Say hi to Uncle Steve
 - Bye!

