

A hand holding a lit sparkler against a dark background with a faint circular light. The sparkler is bright and glowing, with many sparks flying out. The hand is in the foreground, and the background is dark with a faint circular light. The text is overlaid on the image.

**CAPTIVATED BY  
THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**

— Philipians 1:1-2 —



A hand holding a lit sparkler against a dark background. The sparkler is bright and glowing, with many sparks flying out. The hand is in the foreground, and the background is dark and out of focus.

Finding Joy

# PHILIPPIANS

Right Where You Are



everyone wants to find it

"A FEEL GOOD TREAT...  
SIMON PEGG IS BRILLIANT"  
DAILY EXPRESS

"HEART WARMING AND  
EFFORTLESSLY FUNNY"  
HELLO!

"IT WILL CERTAINLY PUT  
A SMILE ON YOUR FACE"  
PSYCHOLOGIES MAGAZINE

# HECTOR

and the search for happiness



**The more we focus on  
our own personal happiness,  
the more it eludes us.  
We should concern ourselves  
not so much with the pursuit  
of happiness as with  
the happiness of the pursuit.**

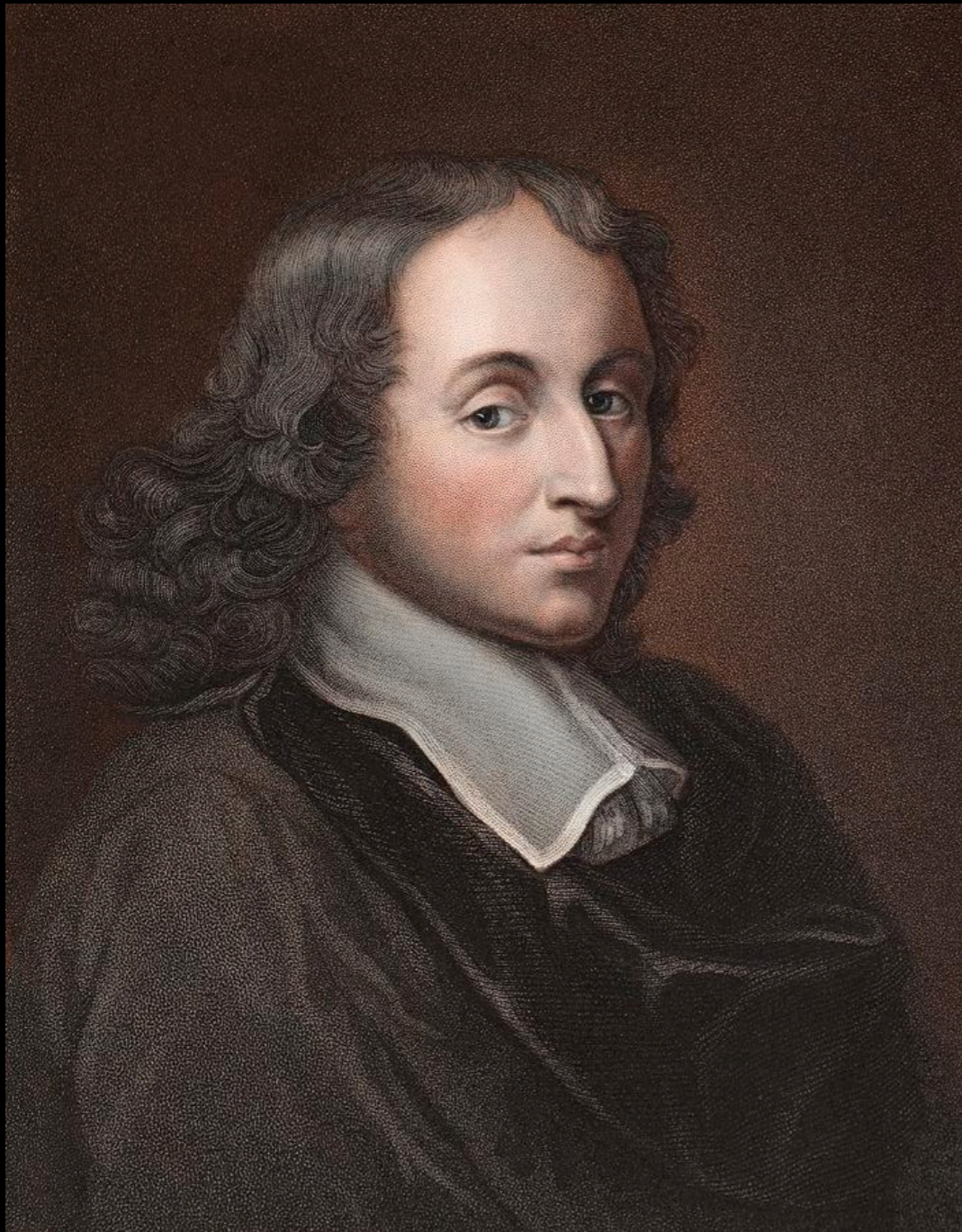
— Hector and the Search for Happiness —



Everyone wants to find it.







**All men seek  
happiness.  
This is without  
exception.**

— Blaise Pascal —

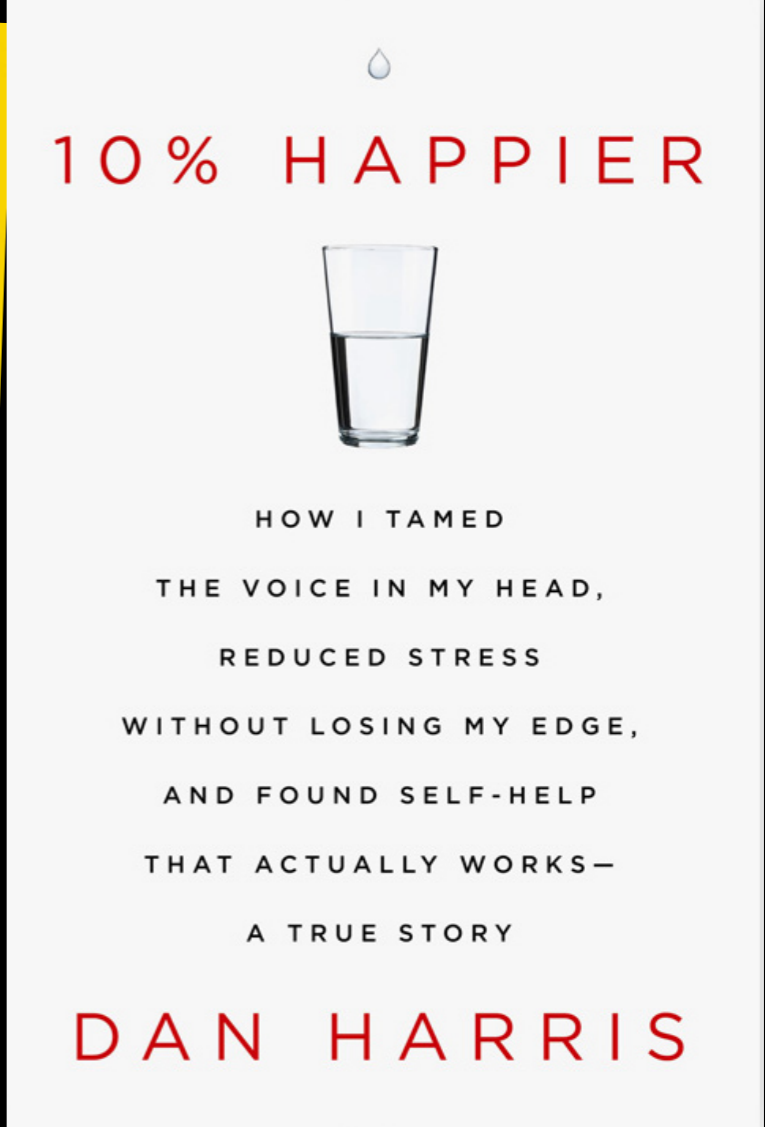
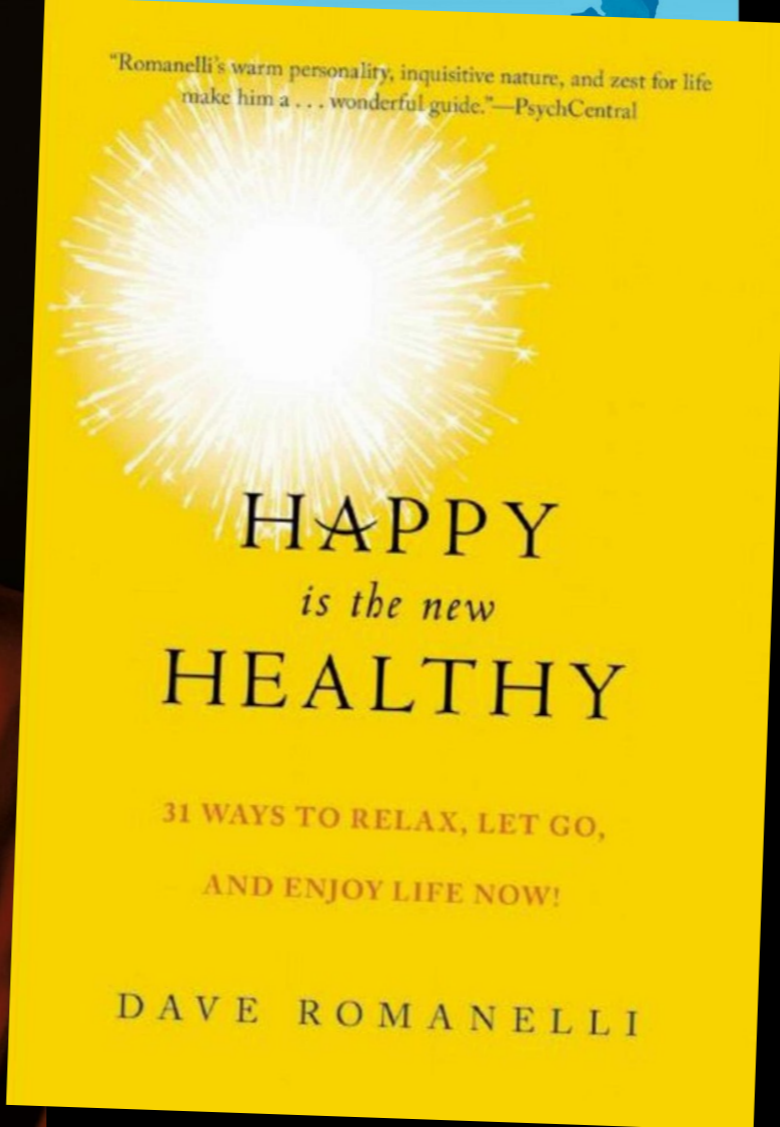
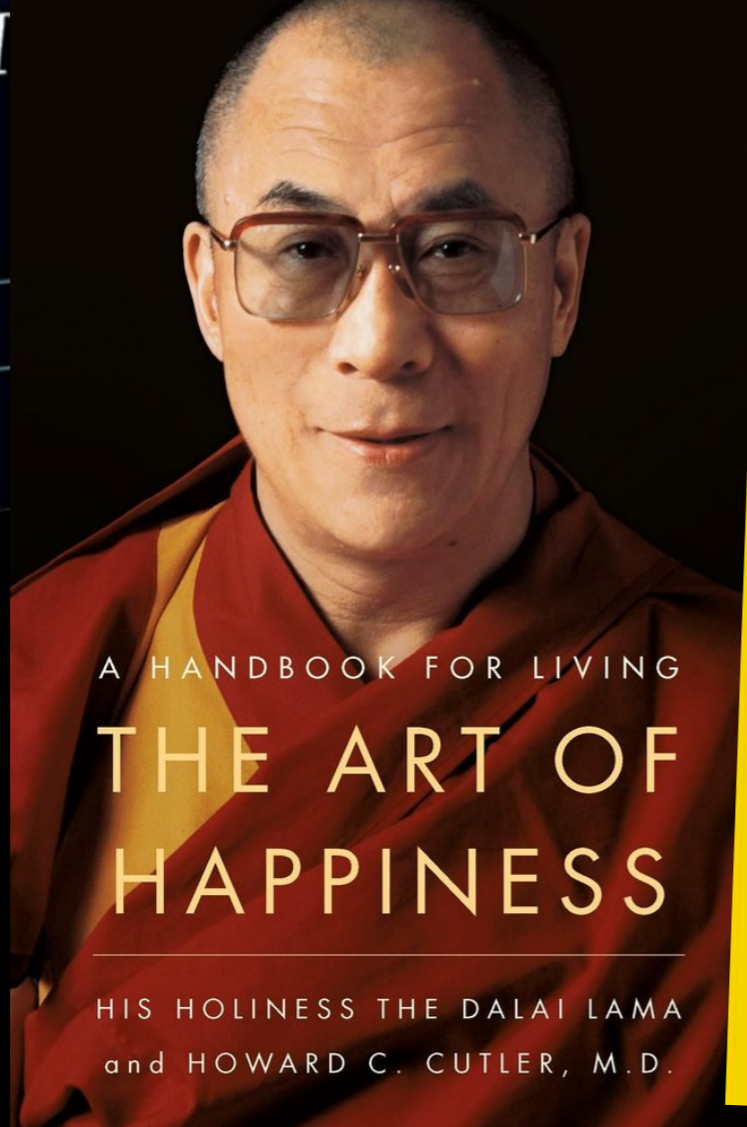
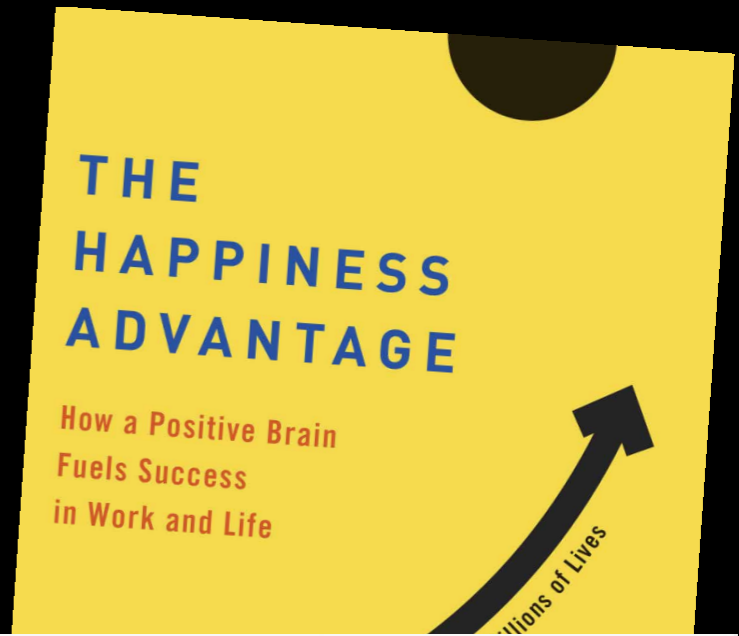
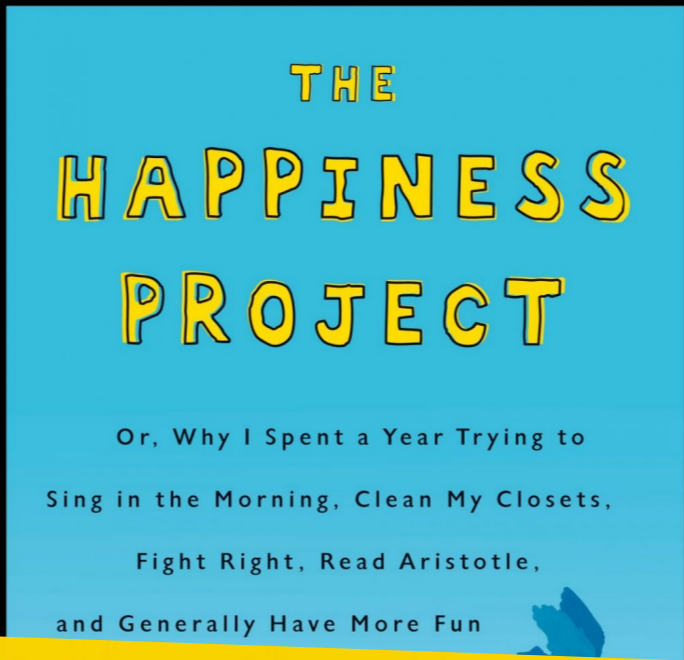


**Man is unable  
not to wish  
to be happy.**

— Thomas Aquinas —







“

**If you want to be happy,  
just be happy right now.**

— Sara, “Why Constantly Searching  
for Happiness Won’t Make You Happy”

”



**Why does  
happiness  
seem so  
elusive**











**In any and all circumstances,  
I have learned the secret of being content....**

— The Apostle Paul in Philippians 4:12 —



A close-up photograph of a hand holding a lit sparkler. The sparkler is bright and glowing, with many sparks flying out. The background is dark and out of focus, showing some faint light patterns. The hand is in the lower right corner, holding the sparkler's stick.

**CAPTIVATED BY  
THE LORD JESUS CHRIST**

— Philipians 1:1-2 —



## Philippians 1

---

**1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,**

**To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:**

**2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**



# Philippians 1

---

**1 Paul and Timothy,** servants of Christ  
Jesus,



# Paul the Apostle

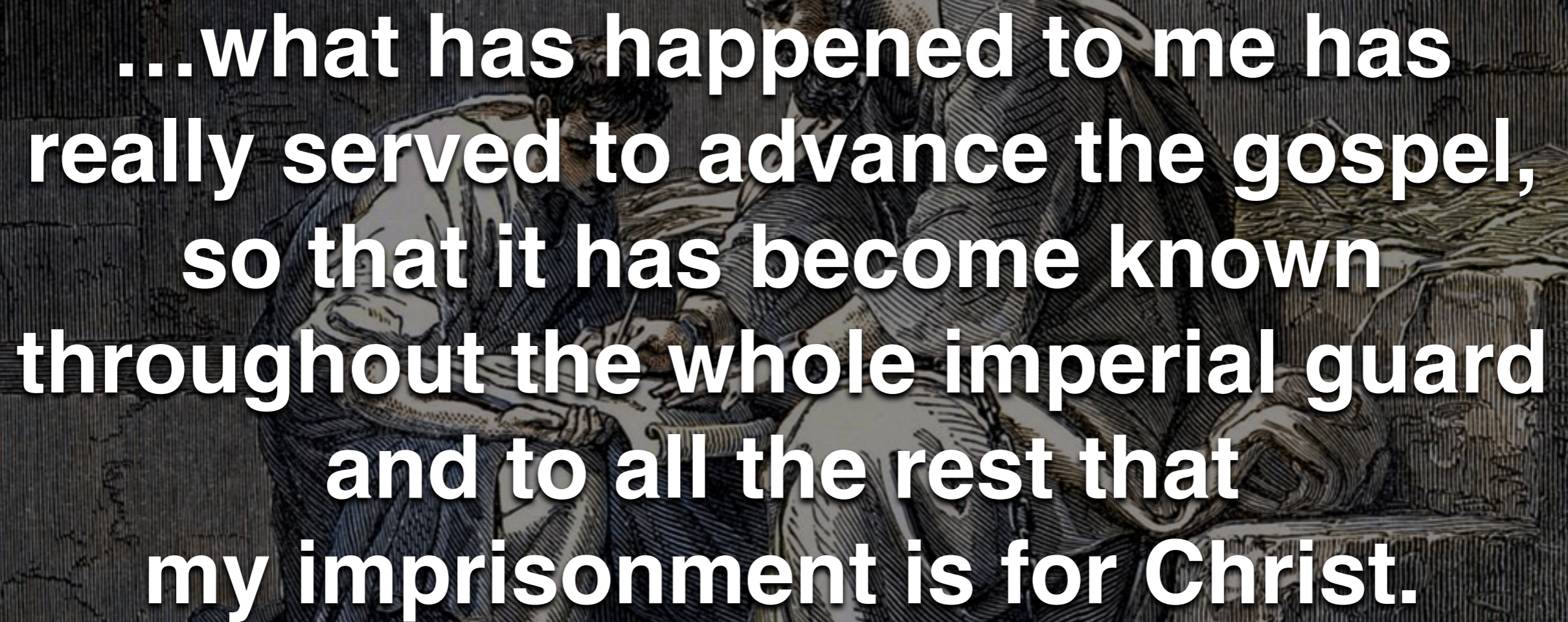
- Member of the Pharisees that conspired to put Jesus to death
- Persecuted the church
- Suddenly converted by a post-resurrection appearance of Jesus
- Ambassador of Jesus to kings and paupers
- Wrote about half (13) of the New Testament documents











**...what has happened to me has  
really served to advance the gospel,  
so that it has become known  
throughout the whole imperial guard  
and to all the rest that  
my imprisonment is for Christ.**

— The Apostle Paul in Philippians 1:12-13 —



# Philippians 1

---

**1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ  
Jesus,**

# Philippians 1

---

**1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ  
Jesus,**

**Literally: “slaves”**

(doulos / δοῦλος)





**Truly, truly, I say to you, everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.... So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.**

**Jesus of Nazareth**

The Gospel of John 8:34, 36

**But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
— Romans 6:22-23 —



**Christ Jesus...  
emptied himself,  
by taking the form  
of a slave...  
becoming obedient  
to the point of  
death....**

**...Christ Jesus has  
made me his own.**

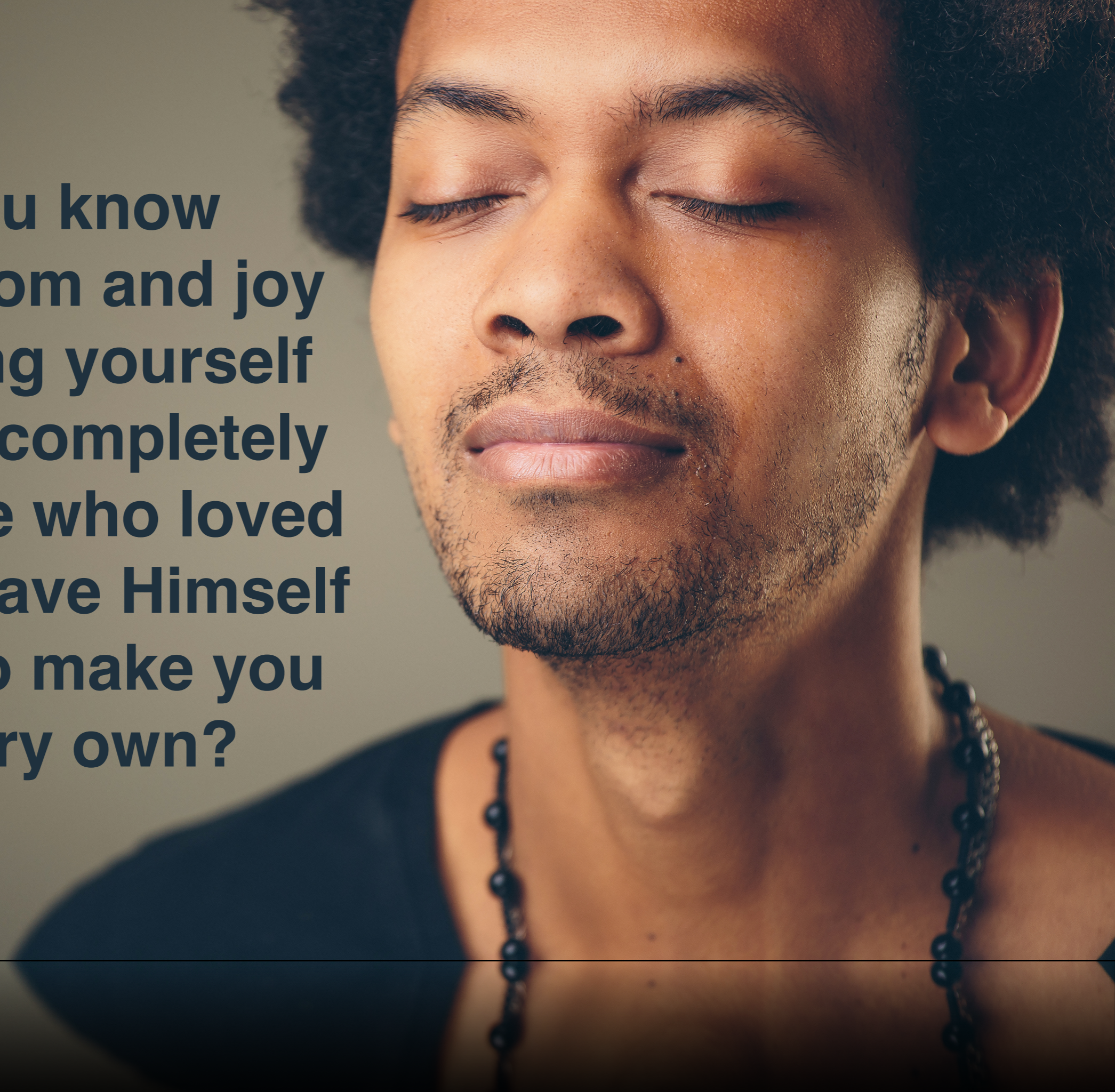


**The Apostle Paul**

— Philippians 2:5ff; 3:12 —



**Do you know  
the freedom and joy  
of offering yourself  
fully and completely  
to the One who loved  
you and gave Himself  
for you to make you  
His very own?**





# Philippians 1

---

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

**To all the saints in Christ Jesus** who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

**To all the Christians**



**To all ~~the Christians~~**

**To all the followers of Jesus**

**To all ~~the Christians~~**

**To all ~~the followers of Jesus~~**


**To all the saints in Christ Jesus**



To all ~~the Christians~~

To all ~~the followers of Jesus~~

To all **the saints** in Christ Jesus



*The term "saints" is the New Testament word for ordinary Christians.*



**I certainly  
don't feel like a  
saint. In my mind, a  
saint is some kinda  
super Christian,  
and I ain't that.**





# Philippians 1

---

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

**To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:**



# Two Great Representatives / Kings

**Adam**

**“the first man”**

**“the first Adam”**

**“in Adam all die”**

**Jesus**

**“the second man”**

**“the last Adam”**

**“in Christ, all shall  
be made alive”**

# Two Great Representatives / Kings

**Adam**

**Jesus**

“the first man”

“the second man”

“the first Adam”

“the last Adam”

“in Adam all die”

“in Christ, all shall  
be made alive”

**Who I am “in Adam” is a sinner.**

**Who I am “in Christ” is a saint.**



# Philippians 1

---

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

**To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:**

# Philippians 1

---

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

**To all the saints in Christ Jesus** who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:

*This is one of Paul's favorite descriptions of Christians used over 60x!*



**If anyone is in Christ,  
he is a new creation.**

— 2 Corinthians 5:17 —

**Do you not realize  
this about yourselves,  
that Christ Jesus  
is in you?**

— 2 Corinthians 13:5 —



# UNION with CHRIST

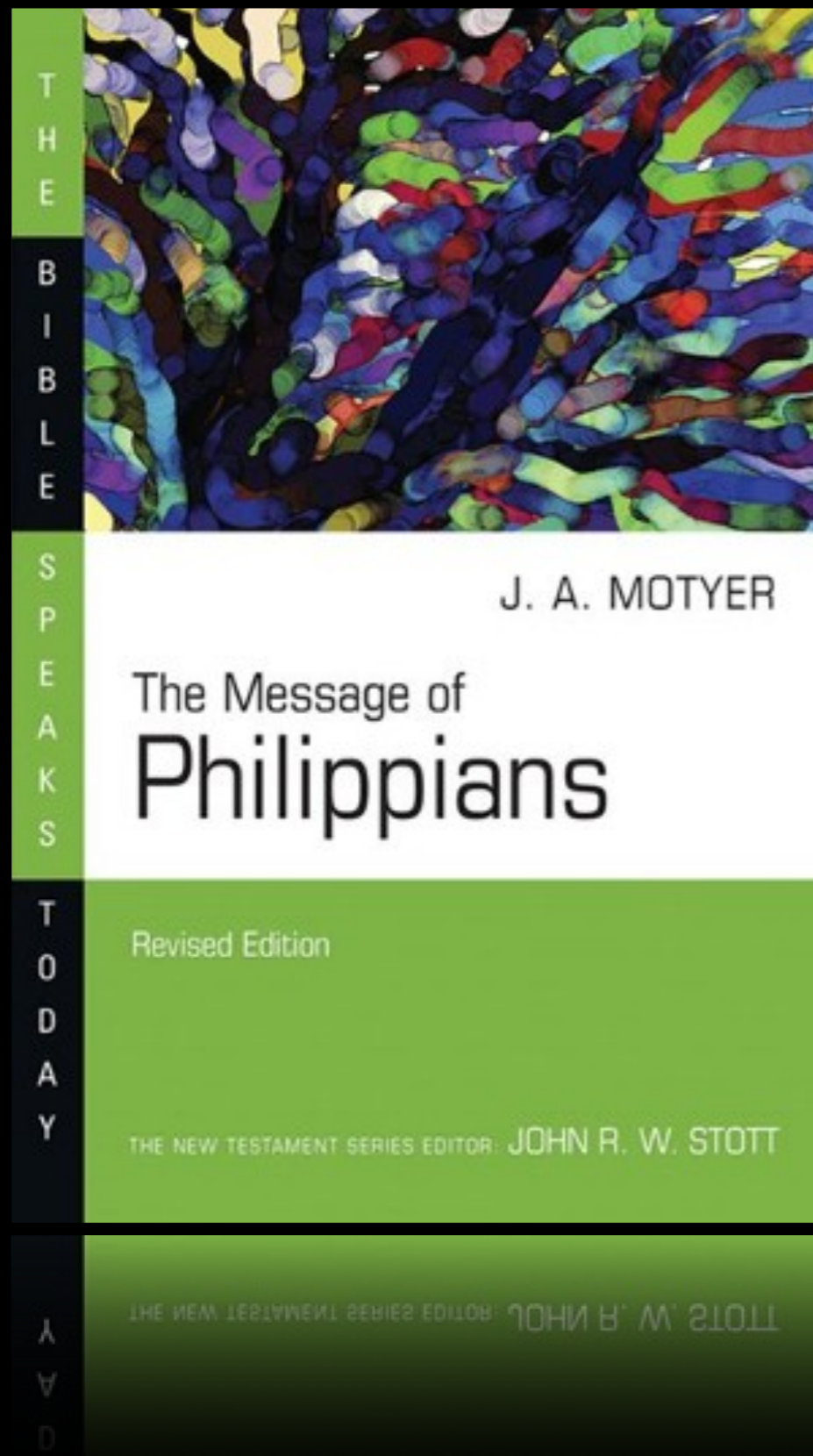
Union with Christ means  
that you are in Christ  
and Christ is in you.



# UNION with CHRIST

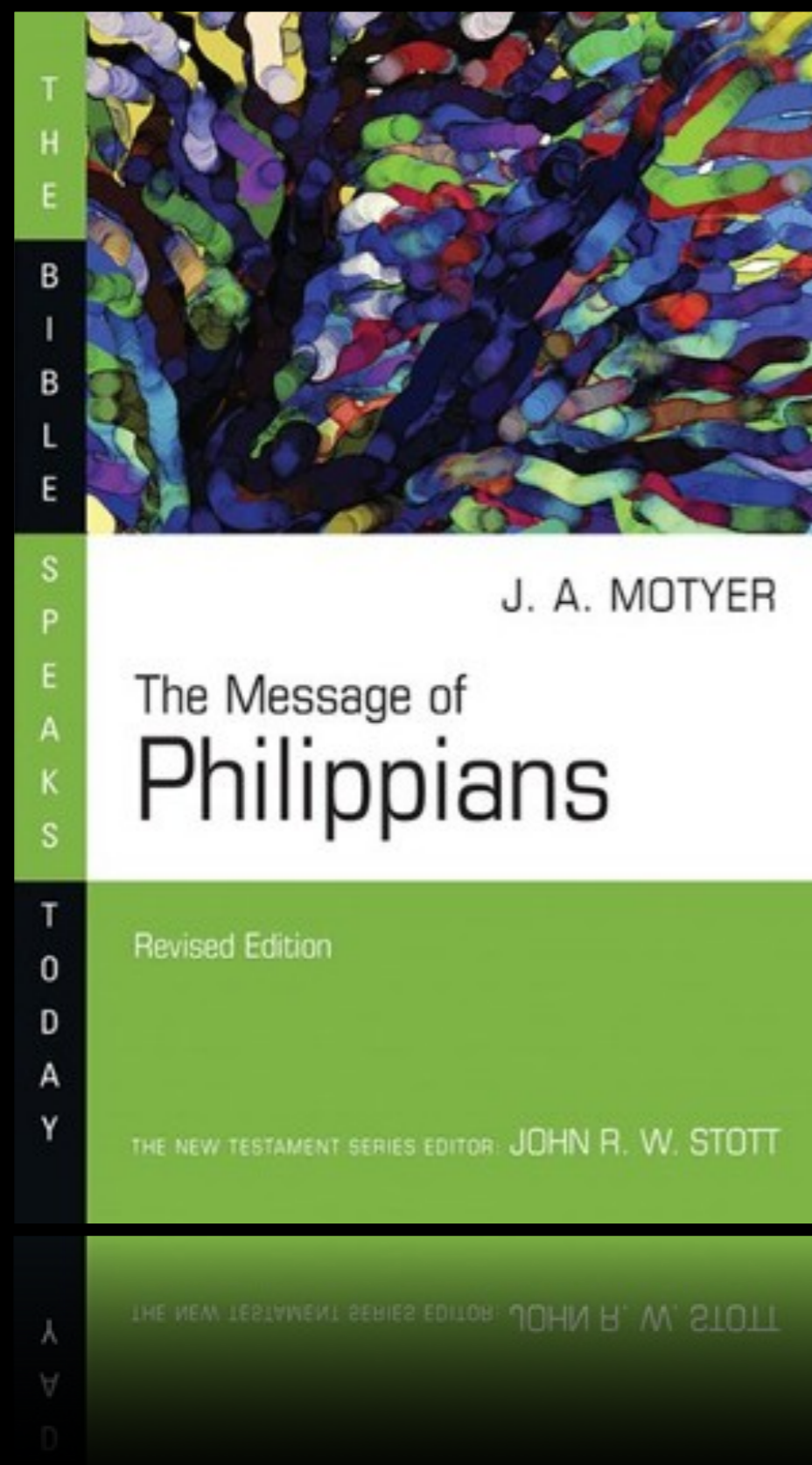
Union with Christ means  
that you are in Christ  
and Christ is in you.

*Union with Christ is not just some doctrine  
to be understood intellectually,  
but a reality to be lived into experientially.*

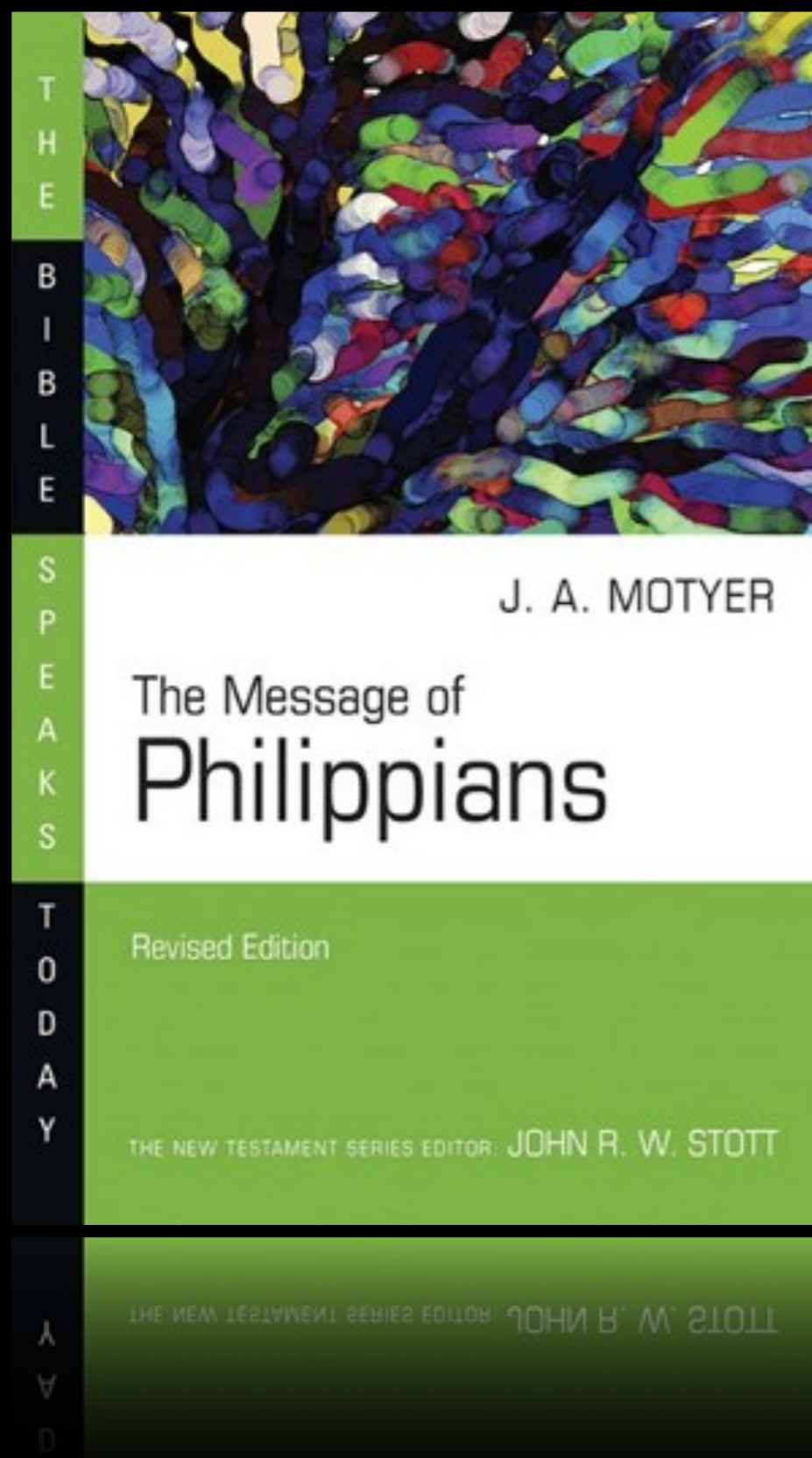


**In Christ we are secure and have everything we need with the peace of God as a garrison patrolling our hearts and his glorious riches laid open to meet our needs.**



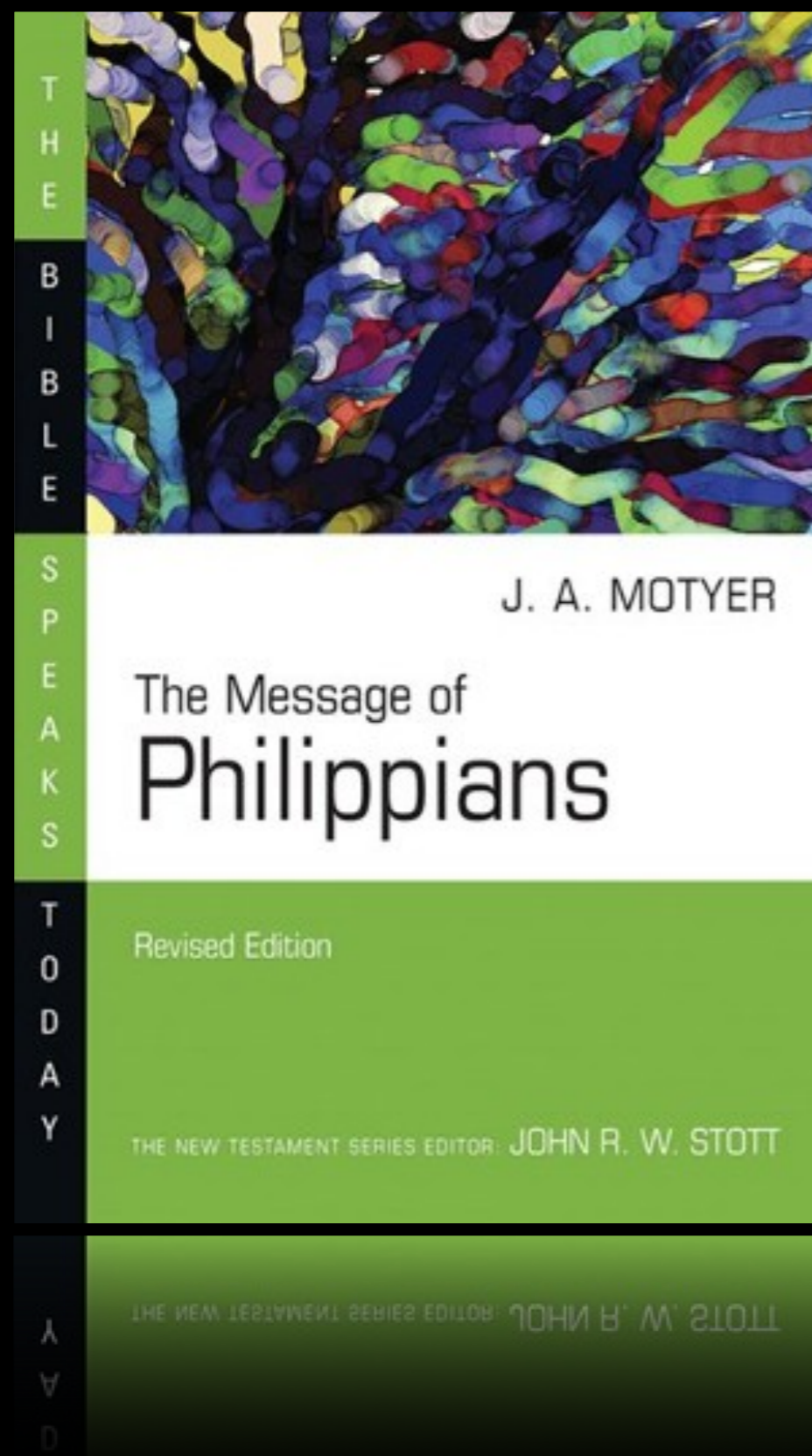


**In Christ we become new people with new feelings, a new mind or way of looking at things, new encouragements or incentives to lives as Christians should, and new abilities to bring those incentives to fruition.**



**In Christ we have a whole new way of looking at life, seeing his hand and his sovereign will in all things....**





**To be *in Christ*, then, is to possess...full salvation: everything necessary to our past, present, and eternal welfare has been secured for us by the action of God in Christ and is stored up in Christ for us to share and enjoy.**





**How would it change things if we began to see each other as saints in Christ Jesus?**

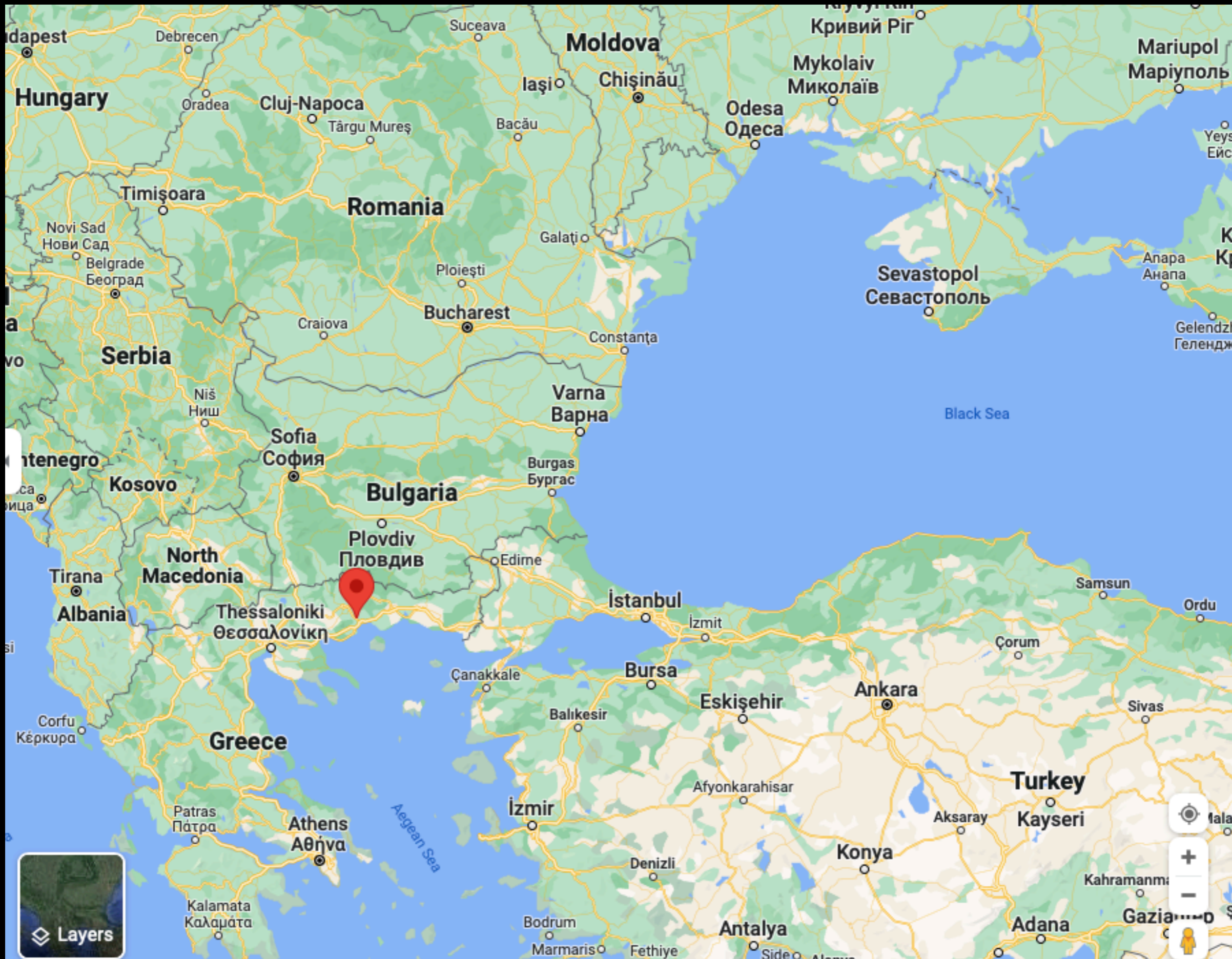


# Philippians 1

---

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

**To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:**





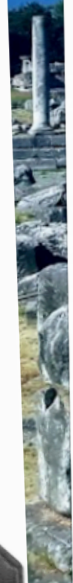
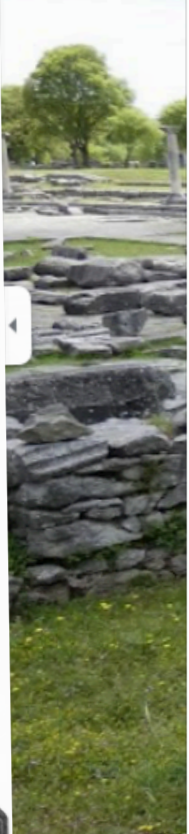
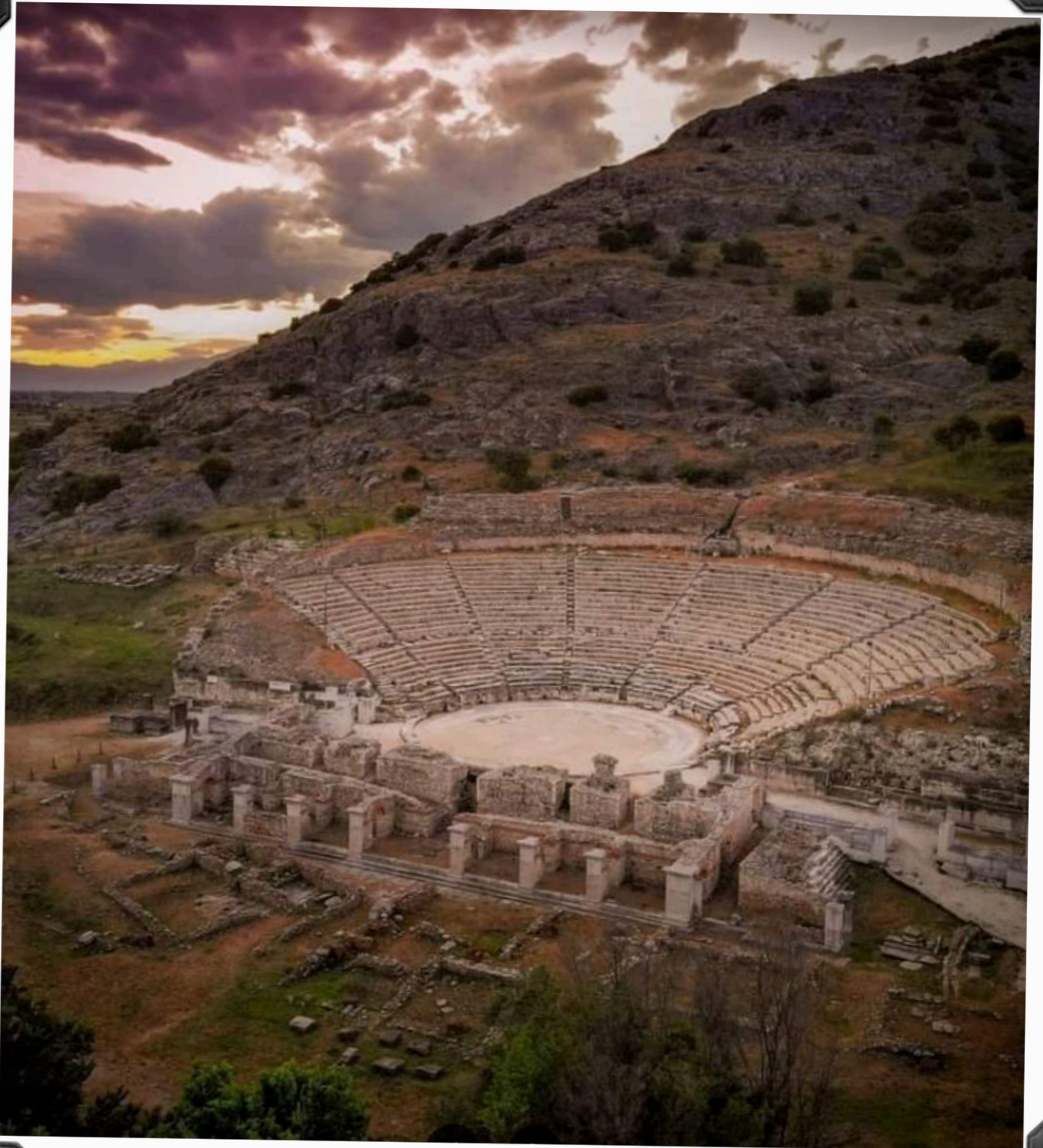




An aerial photograph of the ancient city of Philippi, Greece. The city is built on a hillside, enclosed by a prominent stone wall. The buildings have reddish-brown roofs. The surrounding landscape is a mix of green fields and trees, with mountains visible in the distance under a cloudy sky.

**The ancient city of Philippi had the distinct honor given to it of being the first city in Europe to have a Christian church established by the Apostle Paul.**







A marble bust of Octavian, the first Roman Emperor, shown from the chest up. He has short, wavy hair and is looking slightly to the right. His right arm is raised, pointing upwards. He wears a highly detailed breastplate (cuirass) with various relief carvings, including a central figure and other figures on either side. The background is dark.

**Octavian:  
“Caesar Augustus”**

First Roman Emperor  
27 BC - AD 14

**“The Son of God”**

**“King of kings,  
Lord of lords”**

**“The Savior of  
the whole world”**







# Philippians 1

---

1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, **with the overseers and deacons:**



## Philippians 1

---

**1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,**

**To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:**

**2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**





A black and white portrait of C.S. Lewis, a middle-aged man with receding hair, wearing a suit and tie, looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a textured wall.

**“Oh, that’s easy. It’s grace.”**

— CS Lewis —



**In him we have  
redemption through  
his blood, the  
forgiveness of our  
trespasses, according  
to the riches of his  
grace, which he  
lavished upon us....**



**The Apostle Paul**  
— Ephesians 1:7 —



## Philippians 1

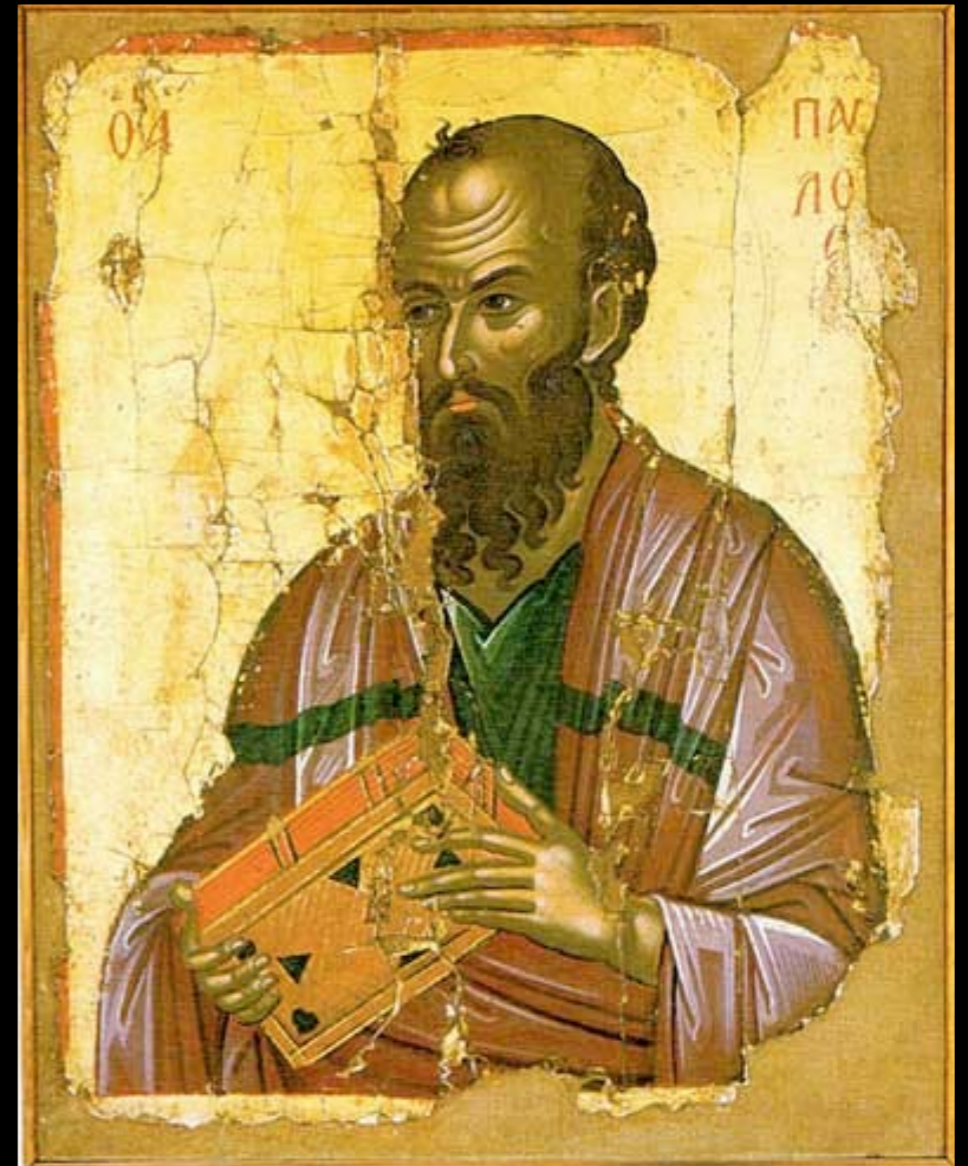
---

**1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,**

**To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:**

**2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Therefore, since we  
have been justified by  
faith, we have peace  
with God through our  
Lord Jesus Christ.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
— Romans 5:1 —



**The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
— Philippians 4:5-7 —

**And the peace of God,  
which surpasses all  
understanding, will  
guard your hearts and  
your minds in Christ  
Jesus.**



**The Apostle Paul**

— Philippians 4:5-7 —



## Philippians 1

---

**1 Paul and Timothy, servants of **Christ Jesus,****

**To all the saints in **Christ Jesus** who are at Philippi, with the overseers and deacons:**

**2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and **the Lord Jesus Christ.****

AN EXPOSITIONAL COMMENTARY

# PHILIPPIANS

James  
Montgomery  
Boice

**Did you know the name of Christ or Jesus Christ occurs 17 times in the first chapter alone...?**

**Paul speaks of joy many times. This is significant.**

**But it is greatly overshadowed by the number of times he mentions Jesus. Paul longs to know Jesus, and longs to know him well.**



**But whatever were gains  
to me I now consider  
loss for the sake of  
Christ. What is more,  
I consider everything  
a loss because of the  
surpassing worth of  
knowing Christ Jesus  
my Lord, for whose sake  
I have lost all things.**



**The Apostle Paul**  
— Philippians 3:7-8 —



A hand holding a lit sparkler against a dark background. The sparkler is bright and glowing, with many sparks flying out. The hand is wearing a dark, textured glove. The background is dark and out of focus.

Finding Joy

# PHILIPPIANS

Right Where You Are



**“...sorrowful, yet  
always rejoicing...,  
having nothing,  
yet possessing  
everything.”**

**The Apostle Paul**  
— 2 Corinthians 6:10 —







**WHAT WOULD IT  
LOOK LIKE FOR  
YOU TO MASTER  
THIS LETTER TO  
THE PHILIPPIANS?**