A Life worthy of Christ's Gospel

"...being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ" (Phil. 1:6)

I. God's good work will be completed in us! (Phil. 1:1-11)

A. The Gospel encompasses the full restoration of man for God's plan

- 1. God has begun his good work in us and will complete it (Acts 16:6-12; Phil. 1:6)
- 2. God can make us pure and faultless for the Day of the Lord (Phil. 1:10; Rom. 8:28-32; Eph. 5:27)
- 3. Our rebirth and the salvation of the soul (John 3:3-6; Mk. 8:34-35; 1 Pet. 1:9)

B. Pressing on in faith, in order to be perfected

- 1. The salvation of our soul demands our cooperation (Phil. 2:12-13)
- 2. Our daily decision not to live for ourselves, but only through Christ (Rom. 8:10-13; Phil. 2:3-9)
- 3. Even when mature in Christ, we still continue to reach forward to Him, until we fully grasp Him (Phil. 3:12-16; 2 Pet. 1:10-11)

C. Our supporting one another in prayer serves our perfection

- 1. Paul is convinced of the perfection of the Philipians, whom he carries in his heart (Phil. 1:3-11)
- 2. The prayers of the Philipians furthers the salvation of his soul (Phil. 1:19)
- 3. We are one in our service to Christ, who consistently intercedes for our salvation (Heb. 7:25)

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II.	For me, to live is Christ (Phil. 1:12-26)								
	A. Furthering the Gospel (Phil. 1:12-18; Mk. 1:1, 14-15; Lk. 2:10-11, 20)								
	 The reason for Paul's "being in chains for Christ" is known to all Two motivations for spreading the Gospel 								
	3. Important is, that Christ be preached by all means								
	B. Deliverance through prayer and the rich abundance of Christ's Spirit (Phil. 1:19)								
	C. Freely exalting Christ in my body (Phil. 1:20)								
	D. For me, to live is Christ (Phil. 1:21; Rom. 6:4-13)								
	 Fruitful labor (Phil. 1:22) Supporting progress and the joy of believing (Phil. 1:25) 								

III. Living a life worthy of Christ's Gospel (Phil. 1:27-30)

A. The Gospel encompasses God's entire plan

- 1. Christ: the Gospel of the Son of God (Rom. 1:9; 2.Tim. 1:10; Eph. 3:8; 2 Cor. 4:3-5; Acts 11:20)
- 2. God's eternal plan the Church (Eph. 3:8-11)

B. Worthy of the Gospel of Christ

- 1. Aligned with the Gospel (Phil. 1:5, 7)
 - a) To live Christ (Phil. 1:21)
 - b) To represent the Word of Life (Phil. 2:16)
- 2. Standing firmly in one Spirit (Phil. 1:27)
 - a) Knowing the Spirit, living in the Spirit (Rom. 8:4, 6)
 - b) Guided and fulfilled by the Spirit (Rom. 8:14; 12:11)
 - c) Endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit (Eph. 4:1-3)
- 3. Striving together as one soul
 - a) Salvation of the soul through renewal (Rom. 12:2; 1 Pet. 1:9-10
 - b) Unity in the soul reigned by the Spirit (Acts 4:32; Phil. 2:2)
 - c) Unified in the struggle for the the Gospel (Phil. 1:30; 3:14; 1Thess. 2:2; 1Tim. 6:12; Eph. 6:10-11; 2Tim. 4:7)
 - d) Overcoming through the word of our testimony (Apoc. 12:11)

IV. Living a Church-life with testifies the working of the Gospel (Phil. 2:1-11)

A. In the Kingdom of God we are freed from the egoism of the old man

- 1. Because Jesus lives in us, we can love the saints from our heart (Mk. 10:20-21; John 7:38-39)
- 2. And we are unified with one another in our soul (Phil. 2:2)

B. The Lord desires to compete his work – with the Church (John 17:21-24)

- 1. Being like-minded and having the same love (Phil. 2:2)
- 2. Humbly holding others as more worthy
- 3. Attentive to the needs of others (Phil. 2:4)

C. Grasping and living the mind of Christ (Phil. 2:5-11)

1. We are set free to are able to choose the Spirit and the Cross

2. We know the expectation of our calling and look forward

to its reward (Eph. 1:18; Heb. 12:2)

V. Working together with God for the salvation of our soul (Phil. 2:12-16)

- A. Working our salvation
 - 1. The basis: The Lord has already accomplished so much (Phil. 2:5-11; 2 Pet. 1:3; 1John 4:4)
 - 2. Not dependent upon other persons (Phil. 2:12)
 - 3. We should be working on our salvation today! (Phil. 2:12; 1:19; 1 Pet. 1:9; Jas. 1:21)
 - 4. With fear and trembling but enjoying grace (1 Pet. 1:10)

B. Cooperating with Him

- 1. God works in will and deed according to His pleasure (Phil. 2:13; John 8:29; 5:17)
- 2. Practicing obedience, being led (Acts 16:6-10)
- 3. Knowing the abundance the of the Lord's supply (Phil. 1:19; Gal. 3:5; Col. 2:19)

C. Our testimony: proclamation, appearance and representation

- 1. We appear as lights in the darkness (Phil. 2:16; John 1:4-5; Mt. 5:14; 1John 2:8; 2 Cor. 4:4-6)
- 2. Holding tightly and representing the Word of Life (Phil. 2:16; 1 John 1:1; John 1:14; John 6:63)

D. The joy of consecration and fending for the saints (Phil. 2:17-30)

 A joyful church-life (Phil. 2:17-18, 28-29) Oneness in the soul (Phil. 2:20, 30) Seeking that, which is Christ Jesus (Phil. 2:21) 							

VI. Gaining Christ and being found in Him (Phil. 3:1-11)

A. Recognizing the overwhelming greatness of Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:8; Eph. 3:8)

- 1. God's Gospel is the revelation of Jesus Christ (Acts 8:35; Rom. 1:1-4; Gal. 1:15-16; Col. 1:17-28)
- Christ's unfathomable richness is revealed to the unbelieving, as well as to the believers, through the Gospel. (It comprises the forgiveness of sins and the building up of the Church as the body of Christ.) (Rom. 1:16; 10:11-13; 1Tim. 4:10)
- 3. We must know him and become one with Him; this is the message of the Gospel
- 4. God will fulfill His work in us through Christ (Eph. 2:10; 1:3-14)

B. The Righteousness which comes from God (Phil. 3:9)

- 1. Recognizing the value of God's righteousness, revealed through the Gospel (Rom. 1:16-17)
- 2. Knowing the difference between Christ and the Law (Phil. 3:9; Rom. 7:6; 10:4; Gal. 3:10-11, 21)
- 3. Filled with the fruits of righteousness (Phil. 1:11)

C. Being one with the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Phil. 3:10)

- 1. We are grown together with the death of Christ, have died with Him (Rom. 6:3-6)
- 2. We live through the Spirit in the power of His resurrection (Rom. 6:4-5; 7:6; 8:11)

D. Our consecration (Phil. 3:7-8)

- 1. The basis on which we gain Christ (Rom. 6:13; 12:1)
- 2. The working of the Gospel in our life for which we gladly pay the price

VII. Pursuing the goal (Phil. 3:12-21)

A. Taking hold of that, for which Christ Jesus took hold of me

- 1. Knowing Christ, gaining Him and being found in Him (Phil. 3:8-10; 1Tim. 6:12, 19; 2 Pet. 1:8)
- 2. It is God's own wish that Christ takes on form within us (Gal. 4:19; Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 3:18; 1Tim. 3:16)

B. We strive forward to the goal, for we see the prize before us

- 1. Continually forgetting all that lies behind us (Phil. 3:13; 2 Cor. 5:17; Jes. 43:18-19)
- 2. Reaching forward to that which lies before, heading for the goal (Heb. 12:1-2; 1 Tim. 6:11; 2 Tim. 2:22)
- 3. The prize of God's high calling (1 Cor. 9:24; Col. 2:18; Heb. 11:26; Col. 3:24)

C. We are not an enemy to the cross

- 1. Like those whose God is their stomach, whose end is destruction (Rom. 16:17-18; 1 Tim. 1:6)
- 2. Whose glory is merely shame; who only strive for worldly riches (Gal. 6:14; Col. 3:1-4)
- 3. Our citizenship is in the heavens, from where we await the Lord (Phil. 3:20)

VIII. In the Church we live entirely for Christ and His Gospel (Phil. 4)

A. Standing firmly in the Lord

- 1. The beloved saints are our joy
- 2. Maintainig or recovering unanimity, thinking the same in the Lord
- 3. In my place (Phil. 4:15; 1:1; Lk. 10:1; 1 Cor. 1:2; 1Thess. 1:1; Tit. 1:5; Apoc. 1:11)

B. Progressing in our salvation

- 1. With joy in the Lord and love toward others
- 2. Freed from sorrows through prayer
- 3. God's peace protects our hearts and thoughts in Christ. (Phil. 4:7; Col.3:15)
- 4. Consciously commanding our thoughts (Phil. 4:8; Col. 3:2) and being ready to act. (Phil. 4:9; Col. 3:17)
- 5. Giving and taking in the Chruch a pleasure to God. (Phil. 4:15-17; Gal. 6:6-10)

C. Dedicated to the fellowship for the Gospel

- 1. The beginning of the Gospel (Phil. 4:15)
- 2. We, for the Gospel strengthening, supporting, striving, protecting, spreading, preaching it until the end!
 a) Without fear of men, (Phil. 1:28-30; Mt. 10:16-33; Mk. 8:35-38) fearing God alone
 b) Our deficits are replenished in Christ (Phil. 4:19-20)
- 3. Actively spreading the Good News until His Kingdom comes and we enter it. (Mt. 24:13-14; Acts 8:14; Apoc. 10:10-11)

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