

God Works In You

Phil.2:13

Phil.1:6

- **Be sure, certain.** Paul's confidence: 5-6 . . .
 - God began working on you (salvation)
 - God continued working on you (growth)
 - We are confident He will finish

This is not careless presumption:
Ph.2:12; Ga.5:4

Phil.1:6

Wrongly assumes his 'salvation' (faith alone) matches NT model. Ph.1:6, cannot be lost??

1. 7: Paul **confident** (ASV); **feels** (NASB); **thinks** (NKJV) this about them.
2. 10: he prays for their salvation. Why?
3. 25: Paul's *confidence*—he will stay alive: what is likely to happen, not certainty.

**Paul knows God will do His part.
He helps Philippians do theirs.**

I. What Does God Want Us To Do?

1. Live worthy of the gospel, 1:27

- Worthy: axiom, axiomatic (self-evident)
- Walk worthy: *walk the walk*
 - Prison epistles teach us to walk
 - Philippians, to behave as citizens
 - Roman colony, Ac.16:12
 - ‘Your citizen life’ – Ph.3:20; Hb.12:22
- Inconsistent Christians hinder gospel;
Mt.23:27-28

2. World is hostile to faith, 1:28-30

- Inconsistencies of world
- World hates the Bible

3. Love, 2:1-11

1: love, unity, compassion

2: joy, unity, love

3: united, respectful, humble

4: concern for others

5-11: example of Lord

4. Watch ourselves, 2:12-18

12: always ¹obeyed . . . ²work out own salvation ?

- **NOT** that we decide what we want to do, Ac.9:6
- **NOT** that we merit salvation by works
- **BUT** 'make every effort to obtain salvation' (Th). 3:1-11, 15

4. Watch ourselves, 2:12-18

12: always ¹obeyed . . . ²work out own salvation ?

13: why this exhortation (12): **God is at work
in you**

- Energize, be at work, active.
- 1:6, God working in them

4. Watch ourselves, 2:12-18

12: always ¹obeyed . . . ²work out own salvation ?

13: God is at work in you . . .

ATR: “He exhorts as if he were an Arminian in addressing men. He prays as if he were a Calvinist in addressing God and feels no inconsistency in the two attitudes.”

To will: self-determination. Josh.24:15

To work: personal exertion.

I. What Does God Want Us To Do?

II. How Does God
Work In Us?

1. Through His word, 1 Th.2:13 (= Ph.2:13)

- It's not Paul's message, but God's.
- Philosophical systems competed with gospel (Col.2); pressure to compromise.
 - Gospel came to Thessalonica (2:13) –
 - 1) Recognized the word (from God)
 - 2) Received word (through Paul)
 - 3) Relied on word (believed, obeyed)

1. Through His word, 1 Th.2:13 (Ph.2:13)

- Power of God's word in us –
 - 1:9, makeover: turned to God, from idols
 - 2:10, trains us (schooling; showing)
 - 2:13, works in us (= Ph.2:13; Ga.5:6)

2 K.22:8...Josiah's reforms
Was God at work? How?

Ac.2:14...38-41,42
Was God at work? How?

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- Power of God's word in us –
 - 1:9, makeover: turned to God, from idols
 - 2:10, trains us (schooling; showing)
 - 2:13, works in us (= Ph.2:13; Ga.5:6)
 - 2:16, saves
 - 3:2-3, strengthens
 - 4:18, encourages – ultimate good news

2. Through human agents, 2 Co.1

- 3: most question God when they suffer. How many thank Him?
- 4: suffering is a training ground.
 - Sufferers learn to help others, 7:4-7
 - Not deliverance from trouble, but encouragement in it, 1:4
- 5: sufferings for Him are His sufferings, Ac.9:5

2. Through human agents, 2 Co.1

- 6-7: Paul suffered; Corinthians benefit.
 - Satan's fires do not destroy a church, but strengthen it.
 - Those who think they are strong, often fall. (Mt.26)
 - Those who trust God share in God's comfort (Ac.12)
 - Which Peter are we?
- 8-9: Paul's near-death experience (like a resurrection from the dead)

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- Satan's fires
but strength

- Those who
fall. (Mt.26)

- Those who
comfort (Ac.12)

He lets His people sink
where no human arm can
reach them; when delivered
they praise Him, not
themselves

- Which Peter are we?

- 8-9: Paul's near-death experience (like a resurrection from the dead)

2. Through human agents, 2 Co.1

- 10-11: each enters trials. We learn to . . .
 - Pray for one another.
 - Trust God. Path begins in pain, ends in praise.

3. Providence

- Individuals, Mt.6:...33
- Undivided loyalty to God promises “all these things” that Gentiles worry about (32)