

PHILIPPIANS

October 12, 2025

Philippians 2:12-16 NOTES



GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY & OUR PERSEVERANCE

Philippians 2:12-16 (NASB)

¹² So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your salvation** with fear and trembling;

¹³ **for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.**

¹⁴ **Do all things without grumbling or disputing;** ¹⁵ **so that you will *prove yourselves* to be blameless and innocent, children of God, above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,** ¹⁶ **holding fast the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain.**

Philippians 2:2-5 (NASB)

² make my joy complete by **being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose** [the glory of God & building His kingdom].

³ **Do nothing** from selfishness or empty conceit, but **with humility of mind** regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ **do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.** ⁵ **Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus,**

C S Lewis writes concerning **the devil** - giving advice to one of his demons before sending him out to distract God's children: *The long monotonous years of ... adversity is excellent campaigning weather. You see, it is so hard for these creatures to persevere. The routine of adversity and the drabness we create in their lives and the resentment with which we teach them to respond to it all – provides an excellent opportunity of wearing out the soul by attrition.*

1 Peter 5:8

“Be of sober spirit, be on the alert. Your adversary, the devil, prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour.”

1. If we are going to learn to trust in the sovereignty of God and persevere through adversity then we must stop _____ the _____.

Ephesians 4:29-32 (NIV)

²⁹ Do not let any unwholesome talk come out of your mouths, but only what is helpful for building others up according to their needs, that it may benefit those who listen.

³⁰ And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice. ³² Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.

Psalms 37:3-9 (NASB)

³ Trust in the LORD and do good; Dwell in the land and cultivate faithfulness.

⁵ Commit your way to the LORD, Trust also in Him, and He will do it.

⁶ He will bring forth your righteousness as the light And your judgment as the noonday. ⁷ Rest in the LORD and wait patiently for Him; Do not fret because of him who prospers in his way, Because of the man who carries out wicked schemes.

⁸ Cease from anger and forsake wrath; Do not fret; it leads only to evildoing.

⁹ For evildoers will be cut off, But those who wait for the LORD, they will inherit the land.

2 Corinthians 13:11 (NASB)

¹¹ Finally, brethren, rejoice, be made complete, be comforted, be like-minded, live in peace; **and the God of love and peace will be with you.**

Philippians 4:8 (NASB)

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good repute, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, **dwell on these things.**

2. God sovereignly allows _____ and _____ in our lives that help us mature and work out our salvation.

Romans 8:28-29 (NASB)

²⁸ And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

²⁹ For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become conformed to the image of His Son [Jesus Christ].

3. In God's sovereignty we work out our salvation as He works in and through us so that we can _____ and make _____.

Will you join me in prayer?

Maybe today - with every head bowed and every eye closed, you would like to say a prayer somewhat like this:

***Heavenly Father,** forgive me for playing God and trying to run my own life and everyone else's. **Forgive me** for always being fearful which leads to me ridiculing others. **Help me to learn** to have faith in You and let you be God. **Start with me and teach me** to let go of my own personal agenda so I can join You in contributing to the unity of Your church. **Don't allow me** to oppose You because of my fears or with my negative attitudes. **Show me the sins in my life** so I can confess them to you, repent of them, and return to You and experience Your forgiveness and presence in my life. **I'm asking You today** to help me to learn to wait on You, consistently seek You and pray to You, and learn to enjoy this journey with my church family as we grow closer to You during this special time You have given us. **I want to be part** of helping Your church reach its full potential.*

Or maybe you're here today and you might feel led to say a prayer like this:

Lord Jesus, I realize that I need to keep looking up. Forgive me for paying more attention to what's going on around me than to You. And I want to begin to live for Your glory and Your kingdom. And I want to begin a personal relationship with You today as my Lord and my Savior. I want to learn to trust in You and You alone for salvation. Help me to learn that I can never earn it or deserve it. You took my place on the cross because You love me and would rather die for me than live without me. But even though You died for me You also rose from the grave defeating sin and death "once for all" for those who trust in You. So, today, help me to believe in You and learn to love You with all my heart! And I want to learn to live my life under Your rule and according to Your Word. Please forgive me today for living my life my own way. Jesus, you take the wheel and I'll move to the passenger seat. Thank You for saving me today and making me part of Your family! In Jesus' name I pray these things. Amen!

Closing Song – Alecia

Announcements – Chris

Closing Prayer – “Heavenly Father, You have personally created each of us for Your glory and You have personally died on the cross for our sins in the Person of Jesus Christ. Remind us this week, of all the peace, protection, persuasion, and provision You freely give to those who determine to *surrender their lives to Your perfect and pleasing will. Give us the discipline we need to *learn Your Word, *practice Your Word, and *disciple others. During this Family Quiet Time [while seeking and waiting for Your guidance] help us to remember to confess and repent of our sins daily so we can hear You when You're speaking to us. Help us to understand - and guard Your biblical priority of “UNITY” in the Body of Christ. And help us to see where You are working so we can make whatever adjustments we need to make and join You in building Your kingdom. Father, You have called us for such a time as this! May Your will be done in our lives just as it is in heaven! We pray all these things in the name of our Lord and our Savior, Jesus Christ! Amen!”