



PAUL'S EPISTLE
TO THE
PHILIPPIANS

Recap

Inspiration of Scripture

Historical and Literary Background

Letter (Epistle) Format

Interpretive Approach

Philippians 1:1-11

Application Guidelines

Assignment: Paragraph-based Outline of Chapter 1

Interpretive Problem

Cultural Relativity - to understand, assess, evaluate a person's behavior based upon their own culture - not that of the observer.

Application Guidelines

- 1.Distinguish the central core of the message of the Bible and peripherals.**
- 2.Distinguish what the New Testament views as moral (vs immoral).**
- 3.Distinguish the New Testaments' uniform and consistent witness.**

Application Guidelines

4.Distinguish w/i the New Testament between principle and specific application.

5.Distinguish the cultural options available.

6.Distinguish differences between 21st century and 1st century culture.

7.Exercise Christian charity

Greeting, Thanksgiving, Prayer

1:1-2

Greeting, Thanksgiving, Prayer

1:1-2

**Paul/ Timothy to church
Philippi. Grace/ Peace to
from God our Father and
the Lord Jesus**

Greeting, Thanksgiving, Prayer

1:3-8

Greeting, Thanksgiving, Prayer

1:3-8

I think of you fondly and thank God, joyously, for your consistent partnership. I am assured He will continue to develop you to honor Him.

Greeting, Thanksgiving, Prayer

1:9-11

Greeting, Thanksgiving, Prayer

1:9-11

**I pray you will grow in
knowledgeable and
discerning love to approve
what honors God and live
righteously**

Look Again..1:1-1:11

**Anything from the central
core message of the Bible?**

Peace

God

Thankfulness, Joy

Prayer, Partnership

God Develops Believers

**Love, Knowledge,
Discernment**

**Living purely and
blamelessly**

Righteousness

Look Again..1:1-1:11

Anything about NT morality?

**“... approve what is excellent,
...be pure and blameless.**

Look Again..1:1-1:11

**Anything about the
consistent NT witness?**

**Jesus is both Messiah and
Lord**

Gospel

Love

**Righteousness comes
through Jesus Christ**

Day of Christ

Colossians 1: 21-23

And you, who once were estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him,

provided that you continue in the faith, stable steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the Gospel which you heard, which has been preached to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

Look Again..1:1-1:11

**Anything re: NT principles
vs specifics to readers?**

**“And I am sure that he who
began a good work in you
will bring it to completion
at the day of Jesus Christ.”**

**“”...it is my prayer that your
love may abound more and
more,with knowledge and all
discernment, so that you may
approve what is excellent, and
may be pure and blameless for
the day of Christ, filled with
the fruits of righteousness
...through Christ**

Look Again..1:1-1:11

**Anything re: available
cultural options?**

Religious

**Jews - remain in Jewish
Faith. Or Judaizers**

**Gentiles - Roman Pantheon,
Jewish converts, cults,
philosophy**

Look Again..1:1-1:11

**Anything re: differences
between 1st and 21st
century cultures?**

**Only the standard form of
the letter**

Look Again..1:1-1:11

**Anything that requires that
we extend Christian charity
because of interpretive
differences?**

-

What's the point?

To greet the church, be thankful for their partnership in the Gospel, to pray that they will live pure, blameless and righteous lives to honor Christ. (Standard 1st century letter format)

Possible principle

In the prayer: As we “abound” in knowledgeable and discerning love we will live righteously, blamelessly and purely. This results in bringing glory and praise to God; ready for Christ’s returns.

How do we “abound” in knowledgeable and discerning love?

“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man (person) of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work.”

II Tim 3:16

Psalm 119:11

“I have laid up your word in my heart that I might not sin against you.”

Philippians Outline

1:1-2

Greeting

1:3-8

Thanksgiving

1:9-11

Prayer

1:12-4:20

Body

4:21-23

Salutation

Paragraph-based Outline

Body

1:12-14

**My imprisonment is
advancing the Gospel.**

1:15-18

**Christ is being boldly
preached - I rejoice**

1:19-26

**Whether I live or die I will
honor Christ.**

Body

1:27-30 (cont's - 2:18)

Body

1:27-30 (cont's - 2:18)

Philippians, live worthy of the Gospel. Stand together, of one mind, unafraid.

Interpretive Guidelines

Look Again..1:12-1:30

**Anything from the central
core message of the Bible?**

Suffering Servant

Proclamation

Live to honor God

Unity

Look Again..1:1-1:11

**Anything regarding
morality in the NT?**

**Thought: wrong to preach
Christ out of partisanship?**

Not really

Look Again..1:12-1:30

**Anything regarding the
NT's consistent witness?**

Advancement of Gospel

Living for Christ= #1 Value

Christian suffering

Look Again..1:12-1:30

**Any distinction between
NT principles and
specific application?**

**It is good when the Gospel
is preached - regardless**

**Live to honor our Savior
and Lord, Jesus Christ**

**Live united as believers
against those who oppose
the Gospel.**

**Suffering for Christ is
honorable.**

Look Again..1:12-1:30

**Any available cultural
options?**

Nothing culturally distinct

Interpretive categories 5,6,7

There is nothing applicable to the last three areas of consideration: 5) available cultural options, 6) Distinguish between 21st and 1st century culture, or 7) something about which to extend Christian charity

What's the Point of 1:12-30

Life, for Paul, and those who believe that Christ is the Messiah, is for honoring Christ through verbal proclamation, through unity of purpose and in suffering (for the Gospel).

Suffering

**“Suffering is the
inescapable lot of the
Christians.”**

For next time...

Read Philippians in one sitting (often).

Develop a skeletal paragraph driven outline for chapter 2

Write a one-two sentence statement for each paragraph

Write a “What’s the Point” statement regarding Paul’s progression of thought in chapter 2.