

"PHILIPPI AND THE UNEXPECTED"
Acts 16:11-40
August 13, 2017

I. The Unexpected

- A. Place of Prayer (11-15)
- B. Power Encounter (16-24)
- C. Private Room (25-34)

Simple Salvation: Jesus alone is the <u>aim/object</u> of our belief. (31)

II. Living Gospel Lives along Unexpected Paths

- A. Stay on task with the gospel.
- B. No matter how insignificant, go where the Lord opens a door.

III. Anticipate Providential Care

God doesn't meet our expectations. He exceeds them.

Expect God to work.

Worship Him in all situations.

God is faithful, not predictable.

God is present, not passive.

God works in unexpected \underline{ways} , among unexpected \underline{people} , for His unsurpassed \underline{glory} .

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

"GOSPEL CENTERED LIVING" Philippians 1

Historical Timeline:

Paul almost certainly wrote this letter to the Philippians when he was jailed in Rome about 62 AD. He speaks of sharing the gospel with the imperial guard and of the fact that his life was in danger.

The occasion for his writing was afforded because he had received a gift of support from the believers in Philippi who had sent Epaphroditus to minister to him. He sends this letter in order to encourage them and thank them for their partnership in the gospel.

Passage Overview:

As Paul writes to this church, which he loves so dearly, even his thanksgiving to God for them is centered in the gospel. He rejoices in the work that the gospel is doing in and through them. He is thankful for their partnership in the gospel. And he prays for their growth in the love and knowledge of Christ, which will produce fruit in their lives to the glory of God.

Paul then turns to his current circumstances as a prisoner for Christ and notes how it has been used by Spirit to advance the gospel. Even the imperial guard has heard the good news. For Paul, life is gospel centered in every way and every dimension.

His purpose in life is Christ: Christ's glory and Christ's proclamation. He then encourages the believers in Philippi to live their lives worthy of the gospel as well. The good news in Jesus is to form who they are and frame their daily purpose in living.

We live with this great calling and purpose as well. May our lives be gospel centered, gospel driven, and gospel honoring. Life is not about what we have or accomplish. We have been purchased by the blood of Jesus. We belong to Him. Our lives must be lived then, for His glory alone.

Reading for Next Week: Philippians 1