



A Good Witness (Philippians 2:12-30)

Let Your Light Shine

“Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. Do all things without complaining and disputing**, that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, **among whom you shine as lights in the world**, holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain. Yes, and if **I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith**, I am glad and rejoice with you all. For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.”

Philippians 2:12-18 NKJV

Philippians 2:12-18

☑ “Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.” Philippians 2:12-13 NKJV

☑ He who endures to the end...shall be saved?

☑ “And because **lawlessness will abound**, the love of many will grow cold. **But he who endures to the end shall be saved** [Strong's Greek 4982]. And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.” Matthew 24:12-14 NKJV

☑ **Will be Saved:** (Verb) (sōthēsetai) Strong's Greek 4982: To save, heal, preserve, rescue. From a primary sos; to save, i.e. Deliver or protect.

☑ If salvation is free, how can you possibly work it out?

☑ “...work out your own salvation [Strong's Greek 4991] with fear and trembling; ...” Philippians 2:12-13 NKJV

☑ **Salvation:** (Noun) (sōtērian) Strong's Greek 4991: Feminine of a derivative of soter as noun; rescue or safety.

- “Will be Saved” and “Salvation” both come from the same root:
 - sózó:** to save: 4982 sōzō (from sōs, "safe, rescued")
 - properly, deliver out of danger and into safety; used principally of God rescuing believers from the penalty and power of sin – and into His provisions (safety).
 - [4982 (sōzō) is the root of: 4990 /sōtēr ("Savior"), 4991 /sōtēría ("salvation") and the adjectival form, 4992 /sōtērion (what is "saved/rescued from destruction and brought into divine safety").]
- Contrast “salvation” with “redemption” (redemption, not salvation is actually what you are referring to when you talk about eternal life.**
 - “In Him we have **redemption** [Strong's Greek 629] through His blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of His grace” Ephesians 1:7 NKJV
 - Redemption:** (apolytrōsin) Strong's Greek 629: From a compound of apo and lutron; ransom in full, literally, "buying back from, re-purchasing (winning back) what was previously forfeited (lost)."

- This is vitally important as you read the Word, so you don't get confused by scriptures that say, " But he who **endures to the end shall be saved** " and **work out your own salvation** with fear and trembling." These verses, and so many others like them, are not speaking of eternal life, but life here on earth. And they serve as inspiration to obey the Lord **after we are redeemed** (paid for once and for all), so we will enjoy an absolutely glorious life RIGHT NOW (no matter what joys we experience or suffering we endure!) And what a witness this is to the dying world. As a matter of fact, it is the most powerful witness there is.

- "Let your life witness to your faith as a follower of Christ; and only if necessary use words!"

- "*Do all things **without complaining** and disputing,*"
Philippians 2:14 NKJV

- Why should a living man complain?**

- "Is it not from the mouth of the Most High That **woe** and **well-being** proceed? **Why should a living man complain, A man for the punishment of his sins?** Let us search out and **examine our ways**, And turn back to the LORD;"

Lamentations 3:38-40 NKJV [Written by the Prophet Jeremiah]

☑ **Even after the ocean parts and your enemies are swallowed!**

☑ “So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah. **And the people complained** against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?”” Exodus 15:22-24 NKJV

☑ **I’d rather stay a slave for some meat!**

☑ “Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. And the children of Israel said to them, “**Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt,** when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.” Then the LORD said to Moses, “Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, **that I may test them, whether**

they will walk in My law or not. And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily." Then Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, "At evening you shall know that the LORD has brought you out of the land of Egypt. And in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD; for He hears your complaints against the LORD. But what are we, that you complain against us?"

Exodus 16:2-7 NKJV

☑ **Don't "tempt" God with your complaining!**

- ☑ "Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, "Give us water, that we may drink." So Moses said to them, "**Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the LORD?**" And the people thirsted there for water, and the people **complained** against Moses, and said, "Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"

Exodus 17:2-3 NKJV

☑ **I'd rather live in Egypt as a slave!**

- ☑ "Now when the **people complained**, it displeased the LORD; for the LORD heard it, and His anger was aroused. So the fire of the LORD burned among them,

and consumed some in the outskirts of the camp.”

Numbers 11:1 NKJV

☑ **Let's go back to Egypt than enter the Promised Land**

☑ “So all the congregation lifted up their voices and cried, and the people wept that night. **And all the children of Israel complained** against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, **“If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness!** Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? **Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?”** So they said to one another, “Let us select a leader and return to Egypt.”” Numbers 14:1-4 NKJV

☑ **A Bad Report From the Spies-be careful what you ask for!**

☑ “And the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, “How long shall I bear with this evil congregation **who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints** which the children of Israel make against Me. Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the LORD, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: **The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness,** all of you who were numbered, according to

your entire number, from twenty years old and above.”

Numbers 14:26-29 NKJV

☑ **After Korah’s Rebellion**

☑ “On the next day all the congregation of the children of **Israel complained against Moses** and Aaron, saying, “You have killed the people of the LORD.”” Numbers 16:41
NKJV

☑ **Just Stop it ALREADY**

☑ “And the people spoke against God and against Moses: **“Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread.”** So the LORD sent **fiery serpents** among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.” Numbers 21:5-6
NKJV

☑ *“that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you **shine as lights in the world,**”*
Philippians 2:15 NKJV

☑ **Let your light shine!**

☑ **““You are the light of the world.** A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it

under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. **Let your light so shine** before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” Matthew 5:14-16 NKJV

☑ **The glory which shall be revealed in us!**

☑ “For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with **the glory which shall be revealed in us.**” Romans 8:18 NKJV

☑ **The Glory of the Lord IN YOU!**

☑ “Arise, shine; For your light has come! **And the glory of the LORD is risen upon you.** For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, And deep darkness the people; But the LORD will arise over you, **And His glory will be seen upon you.** The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising. “Lift up your eyes all around, and see: They all gather together, they come to you; Your sons shall come from afar, And your daughters shall be nursed at your side. Then you shall see and become radiant, And your heart shall swell with joy; Because the abundance of the sea shall be turned to you, The wealth of the Gentiles shall come to you.” Isaiah 60:1-5 NKJV

☑ *“Yes, and if I am being **poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith**, I am glad and rejoice with you all.” Philippians 2:17 NKJV*

☑ **The Drink Offering (an offering added to a previous sacrifice like we are added to the sacrifice of Christ)**

☑ “For I am already being **poured out as a drink offering**, and the time of my departure is at hand.” II Timothy 4:6 NKJV

☑ “I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies **a living sacrifice**, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service.” Romans 12:1 NKJV

☑ **The First Drink Offering**

☑ “Then God appeared to Jacob again, when he came from Padan Aram, and blessed him. And God said to him, **“Your name is Jacob; your name shall not be called Jacob anymore, but Israel shall be your name.”** [*Note in Genesis 32:22-32 Jacob wrestles for a blessings and is **renamed Israel**] So He called his name Israel. Also God said to him: “I am God Almighty. Be fruitful and multiply; a nation and a company of nations shall proceed from you, **and kings shall come from your body**. The land which I gave Abraham and Isaac I give to you; and to

your descendants after you I give this land." Then God went up from him in the place where He talked with him. **So Jacob set up a pillar in the place where He talked with him, a pillar of stone; and he poured a drink offering on it,** and he poured oil on it. And Jacob called the name of the place where God spoke with him, Bethel." Genesis 35:9-15 NKJV

☑ *"And He said, "Your name shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel; **for you have struggled with God and with men, and have prevailed.**"" Genesis 32:28 NKJV

☑ **Drink offerings were also included with burnt and grain offerings in God-ordained sacrifices (meaning it was ADDED to the sacrifice!)**

☑ **"With the one lamb** shall be one-tenth of an ephah of flour mixed with one-fourth of a hin of pressed oil, and one-fourth of a hin of wine **as a drink offering.**" Exodus 29:40 NKJV

☑ **"Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: 'When you have come into the land you are to inhabit, which I am giving to you, and you **make an offering by fire to the LORD, a burnt offering or a sacrifice,** to fulfill a vow or as a freewill offering or in your appointed feasts, to**

make a sweet aroma to the LORD, from the herd or the flock, then he who presents his offering to the LORD shall bring a grain offering of one-tenth of an ephah of fine flour mixed with one-fourth of a hin of oil; and one-fourth of a hin of wine **as a drink offering** you shall prepare with the burnt offering or the sacrifice, for each lamb." Numbers 15:2-5 NKJV

Proven Character

"But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send **Timothy** to you shortly, that I also may be encouraged when I know your state. For I have no one like-minded, who will sincerely care for your state. **For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus.** But you know his **proven character, that as a son with his father** he served with me in the gospel. Therefore I hope to send him at once, as soon as I see how it goes with me. But I trust in the Lord that I myself shall also come shortly." Philippians 2:19-24 NKJV

Philippians 2:19-24

- ☑ *"For all seek their own, not the things which are of Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:21 NKJV*
- ☑ **See [Others' Lives Matter \(Philippians 2:1-11\)](#) from [9/19/20](#) and [Narcissistic Christianity \(9/18/20\)](#)**

☑ *“But you know his [Timothy’s] **proven character**, that as a son with his father he served with me in the gospel.” Philippians 2:22 NKJV*

☑ **Character is proven through suffering**

☑ “Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God. And not only that, but we also **glory in tribulations**, knowing that tribulation produces perseverance; and perseverance, **character**; and character, hope. Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.”
Romans 5:1-5 NKJV

☑ **The Character of Timothy**

☑ **Timothy's name** appears as the co-author on 2 Corinthians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, and Philemon. Paul wrote to the Philippians about **Timothy**, "I have no one like him" (Philippians 2:19–23).

☑ “Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ, by the commandment of God our Savior and the Lord Jesus Christ, our hope, To

Timothy, a true son in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord." I Timothy 1:1-2 NKJV

☑ "This charge I commit to you, son Timothy, according to the prophecies previously made concerning you, that by them you may **wage the good warfare, having faith and a good conscience**, which some having rejected, concerning the faith have suffered shipwreck, of whom are Hymenaeus and Alexander, whom I delivered to Satan that they may learn not to blaspheme." I Timothy 1:18-20 NKJV

☑ "If you **instruct the brethren** in these things, you will be a **good minister** of Jesus Christ, **nourished in the words of faith and of the good doctrine** which you have carefully followed." I Timothy 4:6 NKJV

☑ "Let no one despise your youth, but **be an example to the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity.**" I Timothy 4:12 NKJV

☑ "Now **godliness with contentment** is great gain." I Timothy 6:6 NKJV

☑ "But you, O man of God, flee these things [**I Timothy 6:9-10 below**] and **pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. Fight the good fight of**

faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses.” I Timothy 6:11-12 NKJV

☑ “But those who **desire to be rich** fall into temptation and a snare, and into many foolish and harmful lusts which drown men in destruction and perdition. For **the love of money** is a root of all kinds of evil, for which some have strayed from the faith in their greediness, and pierced themselves through with many sorrows.” I Timothy 6:9-10 NKJV

☑ “O Timothy! **Guard what was committed to your trust, avoiding the profane and idle babblings and contradictions** of what is falsely called knowledge— by professing it some have strayed concerning the faith. Grace be with you. Amen.” I Timothy 6:20-21 NKJV

☑ “I thank God, whom I serve with a pure conscience, as my forefathers did, as without ceasing I remember you in my prayers night and day, greatly desiring to see you, being mindful of your tears, that I may be filled with joy, when **I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you**, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also.

Therefore I remind you to **stir up the gift of God which is**

in you through the laying on of my hands. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind. **Therefore do not be ashamed of the testimony of our Lord**, nor of me His prisoner, but share with me in the sufferings for the gospel according to the power of God," II Timothy 1:3-8 NKJV

☑ **"Hold fast the pattern of sound words which you have heard from me**, in faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us." II Timothy 1:13-14 NKJV

☑ Dr. Jeff's quote on discipleship: *"To be a disciple you must be discipled to make disciples who can make disciples!"*

☑ "And the things that you have heard from me among many witnesses, **commit these to faithful men who will be able to teach others also**. You therefore must **endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ**. **No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of this life**, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier." II Timothy 2:2-4 NKJV

☑ **"Be diligent to present yourself approved to God**, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, **rightly**

dividing the word of truth. But **shun profane and idle babblings**, for they will increase to more ungodliness.” II Timothy 2:15-16 NKJV

☑ “But **avoid foolish and ignorant disputes**, knowing that they generate strife. **And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, in humility correcting those who are in opposition**, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, and that they may come to their senses and escape the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to do his will.” II Timothy 2:23-26 NKJV

☑ “But you have **carefully followed my doctrine, manner of life, purpose, faith, longsuffering, love, perseverance, persecutions, afflictions**, which happened to me at Antioch, at Iconium, at Lystra—what persecutions I endured. And out of them all the Lord delivered me.” II Timothy 3:10-11 NKJV

☑ “But you must **continue in the things** which you have learned and been assured of, knowing from whom you have learned them, **and that from childhood you have known the Holy Scriptures**, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is

profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." II Timothy 3:14-17 NKJV

☑ Qualifications of an Overseer

- ☑ ““This is a faithful saying: If a man desires the position of a **bishop**, he desires a good work. A bishop then must be **blameless, the husband of one wife, temperate, sober-minded, of good behavior, hospitable, able to teach; not given to wine, not violent, not greedy for money, but gentle, not quarrelsome, not covetous; one who rules his own house well, having his children in submission with all reverence (for if a man does not know how to rule his own house, how will he take care of the church of God?); not a novice**, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. Moreover **he must have a good testimony among those who are outside**, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.” I Timothy 3:1-7 NKJV

☑ Qualifications of a Deacon

- ☑ “Likewise **deacons must be reverent, not double-tongued, not given to much wine, not greedy for money, holding the mystery of the faith with a pure conscience.**

But let these also first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless. Likewise, their wives must be reverent, not slanderers, temperate, faithful in all things. Let deacons be the husbands of one wife, ruling their children and their own houses well. For those who have served well as deacons obtain for themselves a good standing and great boldness in the faith which is in Christ Jesus.” I Timothy 3:8-13 NKJV

Not My Life—The Trait of a Man to Hold in High Esteem

“Yet I considered it necessary to send to you **Epaphroditus**, my brother, fellow worker, and fellow soldier, but your messenger and the one who ministered to my need; since he was longing for you all, and was distressed because you had heard that he was sick. **For indeed he was sick almost unto death; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.** Therefore I sent him the more eagerly, that when you see him again you may rejoice, and I may be less sorrowful. **Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem; because for the work of Christ he came close to death, not regarding his life,** to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.” Philippians 2:25-30 NKJV

Philippians 2:25-30

- ☑ *“For indeed he [Epaphroditus] was sick **almost unto death**; but God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, **lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.**” Philippians 2:27 NKJV*
*“Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and **hold such men in esteem**; because for the work of Christ he **came close to death, not regarding his life**, to supply what was lacking in your service toward me.” Philippians 2:29-30 NKJV*

☑ Honor to whom honor is due!

- ☑ “Do not **withhold good from those to whom it is due**, When it is in the power of your hand to do so.” Proverbs 3:27 NKJV
- ☑ “Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, **honor to whom honor.**” Romans 13:7 NKJV

☑ Not regarding his own life

- ☑ “Greater love has no one than this, than **to lay down one’s life for his friends.**” John 15:13 NKJV
- ☑ “Husbands, love your wives, **just as Christ** also loved the church and **gave Himself for her,**” Ephesians 5:25 NKJV
- ☑ “I affirm, by the boasting in you which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, **I die daily.**” I Corinthians 15:31 NKJV

- ☑ **“I have been crucified with Christ;** it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me. I do not set aside the grace of God; for if righteousness comes through the law, then Christ died in vain.” Galatians 2:20-21 NKJV
- ☑ “Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and **take up his cross**, and follow Me.” Matthew 16:24 NKJV
- ☑ “If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and **his own life** also, he cannot be My disciple. And whoever does not **bear his cross** and come after Me cannot be My disciple.” Luke 14:26-27 NKJV
- ☑ “So likewise, whoever of you does not **forsake all** that he has cannot be My disciple.” Luke 14:33 NKJV

NEXT WEEK

I'll Take that Trade (Philippians 3:1-11)