

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for April 21-22, 2001

"Paul's Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Philippians"

Philippians 1:3-8

Dale Whitehead

Paul was thankful for his memories.

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Paul was thankful for their participation (KOINONIA) in the gospel.

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Paul was thankful that the work which was begun in them will be completed.

Paul was assured that the work of salvation begun in them would be completed.

How important is the assurance of salvation in respect to ourselves and others?

When the cruise line posted a one word status report of each passenger all that mattered were the words "saved" or "lost."

I would propose to you that in the end all that will really matter are these two words: saved or lost. How important is the assurance of salvation in respect to ourselves and others? Being assured that we and the people around us will not slip into the abyss of God's final judgment far exceeds anything that this world has to offer.

Paul, because of their participation (KOINONIA) in the gospel from "the first day until now" was assured that they were in fact saved (Philippians 1:3-5).

Paul was confident that their participation in the gospel would continue because he saw it is a continuing expression of God's ongoing work of salvation (Philippians 1:6).

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Salvation is totally and completely the work of God (Romans 8:28-30).

Paul was confident that the Lord was at work in the Philippians and would complete that work in the Philippians not in spite of their conduct but because of their conduct.

God's work in respect to His church will be over on the "Day of Jesus Christ." The Day of Christ Jesus relates wholly to the reward and blessing of the saints at His coming (1 Corinthians 1:8; 5:5; 2 Corinthians 1:14; Philippians 1:6, 10; 2:16).

The Day of Christ Jesus is our finish line. Everything that we have been striving for with our fellow Christians will finally be realized.