

Paul and His Prayers – Part 2 (Philippians 1:9-11)

- I. His Prayer of *Praise*—He was *Grateful* (Philippians 1:3-8)
 - A. Paul speaks of *Fondness*—He is thankful and joyful (v. 3-4)
 - B. Paul speaks of *Faithfulness*—That of the Philippians and also the Father (v. 5-6)
 - C. Paul speaks of *Friendship*—He both loved and longed for the saints (v. 7-8)

II. His Prayer of _____—He wants _____ (Philippians 1:9-11)

A. Regarding _____—Their _____ (v. 9)

Consider love and its affects upon obedience to the Law (Romans 13:8).

John 13:34-35 A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. **35** By this shall all *men* know that ye are **My** disciples, if ye have love one to another.

Cf. John 14:15; John 15:17

This word “*abound*” carries the idea of continuous _____ coming up on shore.

Paul’s prayer was for the saints at Philippi to be _____ in their love.

1. Based on _____—an _____ of the _____

“*in the knowledge*” – This “*knowledge*” is genuine and precise knowledge.

Biblical love is rooted in the truth of Scripture (**Eph 5:2-3**; **1Pe 1:22**).

Self sacrificing love is true love that is controlled by _____ and anchored by _____ in that knowledge and ministered by the Spirit.

This type of love is not _____, _____ love but actions under control and we deny _____ and _____ to love.

2. Practiced with _____—an _____ under _____

“*in all judgment*” – The word “*judgment*” carries the idea of discernment; moral insight & practical application of one’s true knowledge.

This “*judgment*” is Biblical discriminating love under the control of a spiritual mind—being Spirit filled. It is rooted in self sacrificing humility. This type of love is not responsive or impulsive. It is an action that is controlled by what we are filled with or controlled by.

Q: Is my love continuous and in excess of others needs? Is it abounding? Based upon my love, who do others see that I am devoted to?

Q: Is my love based on knowledge? Am I choosing to love based upon the Bible says love is supposed to look like?

Q: Is what I love what I set my affection upon / based upon truth or is it just based on emotion?

B. Regarding _____—Their _____ (v. 10a)

To “*approve*” is to recognize as _____ after examination. It is to test for authenticity; to “*prove*” (**Rom 12:2**; **1Th 5:21**); “*test*” (**1Pe 1:7**)

What is “*excellent*” is something that _____.

John Phillips – The apostle [Paul] wants us to discriminate not just between good and bad, right and wrong, true and false; he also wants us to discriminate between good and the best.

It is important that we understand that we “*approve*” of _____. What we believe will dictate how we live, thus what we “*approve*” of.

C. Regarding _____—Their _____ (v. 10b-11)

1. Consider _____ and _____

“*sincere*” – Latin lit. “without _____” / Grk. “_____ tested”

As a Christian is held up to the _____ of the Word (both the Son and the Word) the extent of _____ will be seen.

Being “*without offence*” refers to one’s _____.

2. Consider the _____ and _____

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your **Father** which is in heaven.

Questions to help prepare for next Sunday’s message:

1. What was Paul’s mindset with regards to his suffering (v. 12)?
2. What was a direct result of his suffering (v. 14)?
3. What did Paul rejoice in (v. 18)?
4. What was Paul’s desire in (v. 20)?