**Introduction to Philippians**

7/4/2021

**Part A**

According to Paul, staying in prison was a necessary evil because the same gave him more time to reflect on the love of Jesus and God and connect more with his spirituality. When confined in the prisons, Paul gets to identify the strengths and weaknesses of human beings. His suffering in prison allowed him to love and appreciate other people more than he did for himself. Prison makes Paul identify with the greatest commandment of God, which is love. The Philippian church and Paul underwent persecution from the society because they were spreading the Gospel of Jesus of love (Acts 16:7-10, NIV). The authorities and the community thought they were distorting the Gospel, taking the limelight away from God, and substituting with their teaching. According to Paul and the Philippian church, Jesus wanted people to love each other and to love God. This was the message they were spreading the society and the authorities against and eventually led to their persecution. Paul encourages those facing fear to trust and hope in Jesus, who died for their sins, as he will help them overcome the same (Watson, 2016). Paul avers that we cannot be successful on our own. We need the divine intervention of Jesus to overcome such fears.

**Part B**

Topic One: Who is Saul / Paul?

Paul usually referred to as Saint Paul or Saul of Tarsus in Hebrew was a religious apostle who preached the Gospel throughout the first millennium. He established many Christian communities and is widely considered a significant leader of the Apostolic Age. Before his transformation, Paul is said to have engaged in the murder of early believers in Jerusalem, according to the book of Acts (Watson, 2016). When he was on his way from Damascus, intending to capture Christians and bring them to Jerusalem, the risen Jesus came appeared as s brilliant light. He was blinded, but Ananias regained his vision after three days, and he began preaching the Gospel of Jesus (Rom 9:1–5; 10:1–3, NIV). Paul's life and activities are covered in about half of the Book of Acts. Paul is usually credited with fourteen of the New Testament's 27 books. Scholars agree on the authenticity of seven of the Pauline epistles, while the others are debated to different degrees. The Letter to Hebrews does not claim Paul's provenance, and it was already questioned in the 2nd and 3rd centuries (McDonough, 2006). From the fifth through the sixteenth century, it was nearly generally believed that he authored Hebrews, but this view is now almost unanimously rejected by academics.

Topic Two: How did Paul wind up in Philippi?

After establishing the initial religious society in Macedonian Philippi, Paul's Second mission tour marked the beginning of the Christian spread throughout Europe. Spiritual syncretism occurred in the third century at Philippi when many worships and beliefs in hybrid systems. Due to the town's small Jewish population, the people of Philippi worshipped mainly Greek and Roman deities (McDonough, 2006). The statement has been confirmed the vast population of Jews in Philippi. As was his practice, Paul would find and greet members of the Jewish community whenever he arrived in a new place. His goal was to have the Jewish people believe in Jesus as the Savior. In introducing Christianity to Philippi, Paul taught a new religion that spoke of the region as his cherished (Watson, 2016). It is a church, in addition to performing both creating and showing care, connection, and affection to its creator and uplifter, it is consistently donating time and money to those in need. The area's calm was also disrupted due to the conflict at Philippi, which took place in 42 BC. While later, Emperors Claudius and Nero restored a degree of peace to the area, they made things worse for the people whose hearts they had disturbed. Apostle Paul expresses the incredible blessings of God to the congregation of Philippi (Philippians 4:7, NIV). To get this serenity, one must meditate on the God of Peace and think on truths, noble deeds, virtue, and praiseworthy attributes.

Topic Three: What do we know about the Philippians?

A personalized letter like Second Corinthians, the Admonition to the Philippians, may resemble that regard. Paul's Epistle to the Thessalonians may be said to be as letter-like as those of Philemon. Many of the direct messages in the Epistle are very prominent. Many of the beliefs prevalent in the software development community are not dogma but are used to achieve practical goals. It is important to note that this also applies to the paragraph in (Philippians 2:6-11, NIV) even if we take out all the circumstantial evidence. As he anticipated an early execution and hoped for freedom, the apostle is very honest with his loving community. Speaking of the good things from his labors in Rome, he states how difficult his situation is and his want to stay in it. He expresses his deep appreciation to the Philippians for their kind assistance (McDonough, 2006). Though held captive, he is ecstatic and encourages the readers to celebrate. The Epistle is permeated with the joyful appreciation it conveys.

Topic Four: Where was Paul when he wrote to the Philippians

The Philippians, written by Paul to his growing church at Philippi. He had already spent a few months in jail when he wrote it. Other scholars assert that in its current sorted array, Philippians is a compilation of several letter pieces from the congregation in Philippi that is written by Paul (Watson, 2016). Paul was both terrified and hopeful while he waited for his death to be carried out since he had the desire to see the Philippians again. He does not desire death for the cause of Jesus, but he is anxious to carry on his work. According to Paul, Christians should stay faithful and humble, which means to copy the humble selflessness of Christ, who humbled himself and suffered execution on a crucifixion (Philippians 2:7–8, NIV). This much-quoted line is widely acknowledged to have been an excerpt from an ancient religious song. According to Paul, people should struggle against their dread and trepidation as they strive to attain salvation (Philippians 2:12, NIV). Many theologians have focused on the importance of free choice in getting to one's redemption.

**References**

McDonough, S. M. (2006). Small Change: Saul to Paul, Again. *Journal of Biblical Literature*, *125*(2), 390.

Tyndale House Publishers, Inc. (2019). In *Life application study Bible: New International Version*. Carol Stream, IL.

Watson, A. (2016). CONVERSION OF SAUL (SAINT PAUL)(CA. AD 34). *Great Events in Religion: An Encyclopedia of Pivotal Events in Religious History [3 volumes]*, 142.