

Philippians
Introduction

- 1) To whom is this letter written?
 - a) To all the saints
 - b) With the bishops and deacons

- 2) When did this congregation begin?
 - a) During Paul's second church-planting tour (cf. Acts 15:35-18:22; ca. April 50-through September 52).
 - b) Paul most likely stopped in Philippi from August through October 50 (cf. Acts 16:11-40).
 - c) Luke accompanied Paul during this time (cf. the first person plural pronouns "we" and "us").
 - i) When Paul departed Philippi, Luke apparently stayed behind to watch over the newly formed congregation (cf. 16:40-17:1).

- 3) When was this letter written to this congregation?
 - a) During Paul's first Roman imprisonment (cf. Acts 28:30; ca. February 60 through March 62), most likely during the early spring of 62.
 - b) In other word, the letter was written 11-12 years after Paul's first visit.

- 4) Who sent this letter?
 - a) Paul and Timothy

- 5) What was this congregation like?
 - a) General makeup of the congregation was Gentile
 - i) Few Jewish men were found in Philippi (Acts 16:13).
 - ii) A Gentile business woman from Thyatira named Lydia (Acts 16:14-15)
 - iii) A generous group of people who apparently sent at least 4 financial gifts to Paul and his team (cf. 2nd Corinthians 8:3-4; 11:8-9; Philippians 4:10-14, 15-16)
 - b) Specific people in the congregation
 - i) Women
 - (1) Lydia and her household (Acts 16:14-15, 40)
 - (2) Euodia (cf. 4:2)
 - (3) Syntyche (cf. 4:2)
 - ii) Men
 - (1) Overseers (cf. 1:1)
 - (2) Deacons (cf. 1:1)
 - (3) Philippian jailer and his household (Acts 16:27-34)
 - (4) Epaphroditus (cf. 2:25-30; 4:18)

