

## **Letter to the Church in Philippi** *Paul Gets Friendly*

- I. **Introduction** - “most attractive” letter
  - a. **Contrast** (1 Thess 2:2)
  - b. from prison (Phil 1:7)
  
- II. **Unity: 1 Phil, 2 Phil, 3 Phil?**
  - a. Brown: “endless ingenuity of scholarship”
  - b. External: Polycarp (mid-2<sup>nd</sup> c.) “letters” to the Philippians
  - c. Internal:
    - i. Phil 3:1b
    - ii. Phil 3:1a
      1. “Finally”, then two more chapters
    - iii. Link of 3:1a and 4:4 (letter: 3:1b-4:3) – “Rejoice”
  
- III. **Two Letter Theory**
  - a. 3:1b - 4:20 (when Paul received gift with Epaphroditus)
  - b. 1:1 – 3:1a + 4:21-23 (after Epaphroditus recovered)
  
- IV. **Three Letter Theory** (more popular)
  - a. 4:10-20 (acknowledging gift from Philippians)
  - b. 1:103a + 4:4 – 7, 21-23 (live a worthy life, rejoice in Lord)
  - c. 3:1b – 4:3 + 4:8-9 (corrective and polemical letter)
  
- V. **Christ Hymn** (Phil 2:6-11)

### **Philemon**

- I. **One page**
  
- II. **Characters**
  - a. Onesimus – slave
  - b. Philemon – slave owner
  
- III. **Pun: “Useful”** (Philemon 11)
  
- IV. **Paul and Slavery** (Phil 15-16, 20; 1 Cor 7:21-22)
  - a. “separated “ (Philemon 15)
  - b. Brother (Philemon 16)
  - c. “Hint, hint. Nudge, nudge” (Philemon 20)
  - d. Radical Vision...but (Gal 3:22-23)
  - e. No social change...wait for God (1 Cor 7:21-22)

### **Paul’s Letter to the Church in Rome**

- **Intro**: longest, most reflection, most influential (Rom 1:10-15; 15:23-24)
- **Natural/Unnatural** (Romans 1:26-27)
- **Women** (Rom 16:1-3, 6-7, 15)

- **Doxology** (16:25-27)
- **Conclusion** (Acts 21-28)

**Paul and Jesus:** silent, irrelevant, or uninformed?

### Deutero-Paul

**Pseudonymous:** 7 undisputed, 6 disputed

Disputed Pauline Letter	II Thess	Col	Eph	I-II Tim	Titus
% of scholars that rejects Paul's authorship	50%	60%	80%	80-90%	

**Reading in Greek** – long sentences (Col 1:3-8)

	Complete Sentences	Over 50 words	Unique words
<b>Galatians (undisputed)</b>	181	1	
<b>Philippians (undisputed)</b>	102	1	76 (one of the highest of undisputed)
<b>1 Cor (undisputed)</b>	621	1	
<b>Romans 1-4 (undisputed)</b>	581	3	
<b>Ephesians (disputed)</b>	100	9	116

### 2 Thessalonians

- **Repetition** of 1 Thess 2:9 (II Thess 3:8)
- **Forgery hints?** (II Thess 3:17)
- **Soviet Constitution** (3:10)
- 1 Thess: Beseeching, exhorting; Paul uses himself as example (1 Thess 1:5; 2:1-9; 3:4)
- 2 Thess: General appeal to authoritative tradition; Paul as apostolic authority (2:15; 3:6, 14)

### Colossians

- **Relationship to Laodicea** (Col 4:16; 2:1)
- **Christological Hymn** (1:15-20)
- **Diminished Role of Women** (3:11)
- **Onesimus** (4:9) and **Luke** (4:14)

### Ephesians

**High Ecclesiology** (1:22; 3:10) – not just local church...Church with a capital C.  
**Armor of God** (Eph 6) - nonviolent