

PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS

WELCOME!

THINK ON THESE THINGS

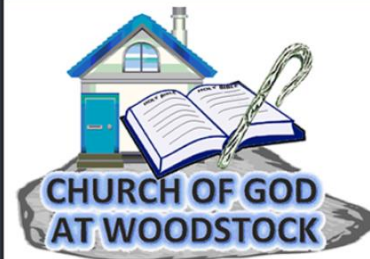


**TRUTH ON THE
WEB MINISTRIES**

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EPH 6:17 AND TAKE...THE SWORD OF THE
SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD

A CHURCH OF GOD IN WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippi Phacts

- Established by Thasian colonists in 360/359 BC. The city was renamed by Philip II of Macedon in 356 BC and abandoned in the 14th century after the Ottoman conquest.
- Population in the 1st century was around 10,000 with about 20% being slaves.
- As a colony, Philippi was considered an extension of Rome. The citizens enjoyed Roman citizenship and *ius Italicum*, a legal status which permitted self-government and tax-exemption to its citizens.
- Considered to be the first Christian congregation in Europe.

THINK ON THESE THINGS



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The Greek word 'sunagoge' [***Strong's G4864***] means a bringing together or assembly, and in the context of a building in ancient Judea, it was a place of assembly or a meetinghouse.

A synagogue in the ancient world functioned as a place of study, worship, and community gathering.

Liddell, et al., A Greek-English Lexicon, 1692



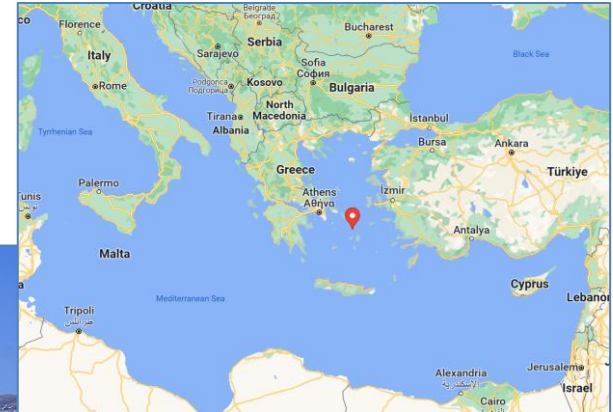
THINK ON THESE THINGS

Although the origin of the synagogue as a Jewish institution is unclear, by the first century C.E. they were found in both Israel and the Diaspora, where they were used for a variety of communal needs: as schools (Josephus, Antiquities 16.43), for communal meals (Josephus, Antiquities 14.214-216), as hostels, as courts (Acts 22:19), as a place to collect and distribute charity (Matt 6:2), and for political meetings (Josephus, Life 276-289).



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Synagogue on the island of Delos,
Greece, dated 150 – 128 BC



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The earliest evidence for an actual synagogue building is found on a dedication inscription from the 3rd century BC in Egypt. The stone inscription from Schedia in northern Egypt mentions Judeans dedicating the synagogue during the reign of Ptolemy III Euergetes around 246-221 BC (CIJ 2.1440). Numerous other synagogue dedication inscriptions in Egypt have been found that date to the 2nd century BC and later.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

In ancient Judea, a synagogue from the early 1st century BC was discovered at the Hasmonean palace in Jericho, and other synagogues from the late 1st century BC and 1st century AD have now been uncovered in places like Capernaum, Magdala, Gamla, Masada, Herodium, several sites scattered across Galilee, Caesarea Maritima and Qumran.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Worship also took place in first-century synagogues, although much of what is known about the particular liturgy that took place in the synagogue comes from the Mishnah and is reflective of the 2nd and 3rd centuries AD (Megilla 3:4–4:10)



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Acts 15:40–41

And **Paul chose Silas**, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God. And he went through **Syria and Cilicia**, confirming the churches.



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Acts 16:1–5 [1]

Then came he to **Derbe** and **Lystra**: and, behold, a certain disciple was there, named **Timotheus**, the son of a certain woman, which was a Jewess, and believed; but his father was a Greek:



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Acts 16:1–5 [2-5]

Which was well reported of by the brethren that were at **Lystra** and **Iconium**. Him would Paul have to go forth with him; and took and circumcised him **because of the Jews which were in those quarters**: for they knew all that his father was a Greek. And as they **went through the cities**, they delivered them the decrees for to keep, that were ordained of the apostles and elders which were at Jerusalem. **And so were the churches established in the faith, and increased in number daily.**



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Acts 16:8–11

And they passing by Mysia came down to **Troas**.
And a **vision appeared to Paul** in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, **Come over into Macedonia, and help us**. And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly **gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them**. Therefore loosing from **Troas**, we came with a straight course to **Samothracia**, and the next day to **Neapolis**;



THINK ON THESE THINGS



Acts 16:12 – And from thence to **Philippi**, which is the chief city of that part of **Macedonia**, and a **colony**: and we were in that city abiding certain days.

THINK ON THESE THINGS

Acts 16:13–15 And on the sabbath we went **out of the city by a river side**, where prayer was wont to be made; and we sat down, and spake unto the women which resorted thither. And a certain woman named **Lydia**, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, **which worshipped God**, heard us: **whose heart the Lord opened**, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul. **And when she was baptized, and her household**, she besought us, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide there. **And she constrained us.**



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Acts 16:16–18

And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters **much gain by soothsaying**: The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation. And this did she many days. But Paul, **being grieved**, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to **come out of her**. And he **came out the same hour**.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Acts 16:19–21

And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught **Paul and Silas**, and drew them into the marketplace unto the rulers, And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, **being Jews**, do exceedingly trouble our city, And teach customs, which are not lawful for us to receive, neither to observe, being Romans.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Acts 16:22–23

And **the multitude rose up together against them**: and the magistrates rent off their clothes, and commanded **to beat them**. And when they **had laid many stripes upon them**, they **cast them into prison**, charging the jailor to keep them safely:



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Acts 16:30–33

And brought them out, and said, Sirs, **what must I do to be saved?** And they said, **Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved,** and thy house. And **they spake unto him the word of the Lord, and to all that were in his house.** And he took them the same hour of the night, and **washed their stripes; and was baptized,** he and all his, straightway.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Acts 16:34

And when he had **brought them into his house**,
he **set meat before them, and rejoiced**, believing
in God with all his house.



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Acts 16:39–40

And they came and besought them, and brought them out, and desired them to **depart out of the city**. And they went out of the prison, and entered into the **house of Lydia**: and when they had seen the brethren, **they comforted them, and departed**.

THINK ON THESE THINGS

1 Thessalonians 2:1–2 For yourselves, brethren, know our **entrance in unto you**, that it was not in vain: But even after that we had **suffered before**, and were **shamefully entreated**, as ye know, at **Philippi**, we were bold in our God to speak unto you the gospel of God with much contention.



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Acts 20:6 And we sailed away from **Philippi** after the days of unleavened bread, and came unto them to Troas in five days; where we abode seven days.



PAUL'S LETTER TO THE PHILIPPIANS



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:1–5

Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to **all the saints in Christ Jesus** which are at **Philippi**, with the bishops and deacons: Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. I thank my God upon **every remembrance of you**, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, **For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;**



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing,
that he which hath begun a good work in you will
perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:



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Philippians 1:6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:

John 10:27–30 My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me: And **I give unto them eternal life**; and they shall never perish, **neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand.** My Father, which gave them me, is greater than all; and no man is able to pluck them out of my Father's hand. **I and my Father are one.**



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:7–8

Even as it is meet for me to **think this of you all**, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both **in my bonds**, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace. For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:9–11

And this I pray, that your **love may abound** yet more and more in **knowledge** and in all **judgment**; That ye may **approve things that are excellent**; that ye may **be sincere and without offence** till the day of Christ; Being **filled with the fruits of righteousness**, which are by Jesus Christ, **unto the glory and praise of God.**



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:12-18a [JBP]

12 Now, concerning myself, I want you to know, my brothers, that what has **happened to me** has, in effect, turned out to the **advantage of the Gospel**.

13 For, first of all, my **imprisonment** means a personal **witness for Christ** before the palace guards not to mention others who come and go.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:12-18a [JBP]

14 Then, it means that most of our brothers, somehow **taking fresh heart in the Lord from the very fact that I am a prisoner for Christ's sake,** have shown far more **courage in boldly proclaiming the Word of God.**



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:12-18a [JBP]

15 I know that some are preaching Christ **out of jealousy**, in order to annoy me, but some are preaching him **in good faith**.

16–17 These latter are preaching **out of their love for me**. For they know that God has set me here in prison to defend our right to preach the Gospel. The motive of the former is questionable—they preach in a partisan spirit, hoping to **make my chains even more galling** than they would otherwise be.

THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:12-18a [JBP]

18a But **what does it matter**? However they may look at it, **the fact remains that Christ is being preached**, whether sincerely or not, and that fact makes me very happy.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:18b-26 [JBP] [18b-21]

18b Yes, and **I shall go on being very happy,**

19 for I know that what is happening **will be for the good of my own soul**, thanks to your prayers and the resources of the spirit of Jesus Christ.

20 It all accords with **my own earnest wishes and hopes**, which are that I should **never be in any way ashamed, but that now, as always, I should honour Christ with the utmost boldness** by the way I live, **whether that means I am to face death or to go on living.**



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Philippians 1:18b-26 [JBP] [18b-21]

21 For living to me **means simply “Christ”**, and if I die I should merely **gain more of him**.

22 I realise, of course, that the work which I have started **may make it necessary for me to go on living in this world**, I should find it very hard to make a choice.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:18b-26 [JBP] [18b-21]

23 I am torn in two directions—on the one hand I long to leave this world and live with Christ, and that is obviously the best thing for me.

24 Yet, on the other hand, it is probably more necessary for you that I should stay here on earth.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:18b-26 [JBP] [22-26]

25 That is why I feel **pretty well convinced that I shall not leave this world yet**, but shall be able to stand by you, to **help you forward in Christian living and to find increasing joy in your faith.**

26 **So you can look forward to making much of me as your minister in Christ when I come to see you again!**



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Philippians 1:27-30 [JBP]

27 But whatever happens, make sure that your everyday life is worthy of the Gospel of Christ.

So that whether I do come and see you, or merely hear about you from a distance, I may know that you are standing fast in a united spirit, **battling with a single mind for the faith of the Gospel** and not caring two straws for your enemies.



THINK ON THESE THINGS

Philippians 1:28 [KJV]

And in nothing **terrified by your adversaries:**
which is to them an **evident token of perdition,**
but to you of salvation, and that of God.

Philippians 1:28-30 [JBP]

28 The very fact that they are your enemies is
plain proof that they are lost to God, while the
fact that you have such men as enemies is **plain**
proof that you yourselves are being saved by
God.



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Philippians 1:28-30 [JBP]

29 You **are given**, in this battle, the **privilege** not merely of **believing in Christ** but also of **suffering for his sake**.

30 **It is now your turn to take part in that battle** you once saw me engaged in, and which, in point of fact, **I am still fighting**.



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ENJOY THE REST OF THE FEAST



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