**HE WHO BEGAN WILL COMPLETE**

Philippians 1:3-6

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**INTRODUCTION**

On Paul’s 2nd missionary journey, he spent time in Philippi. It was there that he won his first European convert, Lydia. He also healed a young slave girl possessed by a spirit of divination—an act that caused her masters to take him before the magistrates because of their lost income. Paul and Silas were beaten and thrown into prison—chained in the back part of a cave. Following an earthquake, Paul led the Philippian jailer and his family to faith in Christ. Having spent a short time with Lydia, he departed. The Philippians continued to support his ministry. We will examine this letter over the next few weeks.

1. **PAUL’S PRAYER FOR THE PHILIPPIANS (vv. 3-5)**
2. He **thanked** God for them.
3. He was grateful for his friends and loved ones.
4. He was grateful for those who ministered alongside him.
5. He prayed for them every time he **remembered** them.
6. He remembered them and their generous spirit.
7. He had precious memories of his time spent with them.

*“Precious memories! How they linger! How they ever flood my soul!*

*In the stillness of the midnight, Precious sacred scenes unfold!”*

1. He prayed with joy because they were **partners** with him in ministry.
2. They shared in his ministry by praying for him.
3. They shared in his ministry by giving to support him.
4. **PAUL’S PRAISE FOR THE PHILIPPIANS (v. 6)**
5. He had **confidence** in God and in them.
6. He knew he could trust God.
7. He had learned he could trust them.
8. He knew God had begun a good work in them—a work of **salvation**.
9. When they heard the Good News, they had joyfully received it.
10. When they had received it, they had believed in Jesus as Savior and Lord.
11. He promised that God would also **complete** that work in them.
12. God never does anything half way; He completes His work.
13. Those whom God saves, He keeps.

*“Thank you, Lord, for saving my soul! Thank you, Lord, for making me whole!*

*Thank you, Lord, for giving to me Thy great salvation so rich and free!”*

**CONCLUSION**

Paul could have confidence in the Philippian believers because of what God was doing in and through them. He knew that God would complete His work of salvation He had begun in them. God saves and God sanctifies! It is all a work of God’s grace!

*“God’s grace is enough for me! God’s grace is enough for me!*

*What more could I need from sin to be freed? God’s grace is enough for me!”*