

Philippians – Above the Circumstances!

- A settled conviction:
God sovereignly controls the events of life for the believer's good and for His glory
- Joy not just happiness:
Happiness depends on happenings,
joy depends on Christ

Above the Circumstances!

Phil 1:1-6 *Joyous Confidence*

Verses 1-2

This letter is from Paul & Timothy, slaves of Christ Jesus. It is written to all of God's people in Philippi, who believe in Christ Jesus and to the elders and deacons. Grace and peace to you... (NLT)

- A spontaneous letter to Paul's spiritual friends
- Paul's long and warm relationship with this church
- Joyous confidence throughout the years
- Saints = God's people who believe in Christ
 - Have been changed...
 - Are being changed more and more...
 - Will be fully changed...

Above the Circumstances!

Phil 1:1-6 *Joyous Confidence*

Verses 1-2

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- A spontaneous letter to Paul's *spiritual friends*
- Paul's long and warm relationship with this church
- Joyous confidence throughout the years
- Saints = God's people who believe in Christ
- Overseers (elders) and Deacons
 - Plurality of shepherds who oversee
 - Plurality of 'ministers of mercy' who serve others

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- Overseers (elders) and Deacons
- Grace and Peace – Eph 2:8,9 & Rom 5:1

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- A spontaneous letter to Paul's *spiritual friends*
- Paul's long and warm relationship with this church
- Joyous confidence throughout the years
- Saints = God's people who believe in Christ
- Overseers (elders) and Deacons
- Grace and Peace (note the order!)

Above the Circumstances!

Phil 1:1-6 *Joyous Confidence*

Verses 3,4

Praying with an attitude of joyous thanksgiving
and confident intercession...

Above the Circumstances!

Phil 1:1-6 *Joyous Confidence*

Verses 3,4

Praying with an attitude of joyous thanksgiving and confident intercession ... flowing from the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ (3:8)

Above the Circumstances!

Phil 1:1-6 *Joyous Confidence*

Verses 5,6

Life Above the Circumstances!

- Looks back and looks forward...
 - Back: the joy of knowing that God has been at work for our good and for His glory
 - Forward: the confident assurance of knowing that what God began He will finish

Above the Circumstances!

Phil 1:1-6 *Joyous Confidence*

Verses 5,6

Life Above the Circumstances!

- Looks back and looks forward...
 - Back: the joy of knowing that God has been at work for our good and for His glory
 - Forward: the confident assurance of knowing that what God began He will finish

May God himself, the God of peace, sanctify you through and through. May your whole spirit, soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The One who calls you is faithful and He will do it.

(I Thess 5:23, 24)