**The Study of Philippians: A Discourse in Joy**

**Work Out Your Own Salvation - Philippians 2:1-13**

**Hermeneutic Principle:**

Three essentials of hermeneutics: 1) Context, 2) Context, 3) Context.

Example: **Pastor**: “God called me to this city.” **Friend**: How do you know? **Pastor**: I was reading Acts 18:10 in the hotel when we traveled through. "*for I am with you, and no one will attack you to harm you, for I have many in this city who are my people."* (Acts 18:10)

Scripture is often used as a divining rod, (the magic of eisegeses.)

**Salvation in Philippians:**

1. Paul’s deliverance from reacting to adversity. (Philippians 1:19)
2. Christ’s commitment to God’s will over self-interest. (Philippians 2:5-11)

The road to life goes through death.

* **Form of God**. (Morphe: the outward manifestation that corresponds to essence.) Christ did not seek to cling to this position and form. “*A thing to be grasped*,” that is, Christ did not see the manifestation of his deity as a thing to be exploited for personal gain.
* **Emptied himself**. He didn’t cease being God, but he emptied himself of the outward manifestation of deity. He set aside his function of deity.
* **Form of man**. Christ took on the actual human existence and form, which was necessary to be the sacrifice for humanity.
* **Death**: Christ had to die to be exalted. Significantly, Christ’s death was the substitutionary sacrifice for sins.
* **Life and exaltation**: God highly exalted him above all authorities (names), becoming Lord of all.

Have this mind (perspective) as Christ, that is, perceive your position in life, not as a thing to be exploited for your gain, but set it aside to humbly minister, God will take care of exaltation.

1. The Philippians’ deliverance from reacting to adversity. (Philippians 1:27-2:17)
* **Reinterpret life’s events**. Philippians 1:27-30
* **Unity in times of conflict**. Philippians 2:1-4
* **The power of death to self**. Philippians 2:5-11
* **Deliverance from self-protection**. Philippians 2:12-18

Work out your deliverance with fear and trembling. (2:12-13)

Do everything without complaining. (2:14-15)

Hold fast to the word of life. (2:16)

Be glad and rejoice. (2:18)