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

**Overcoming a Corrupt Generation - Philippians 2:14-30**

**Hermeneutical principle of unambiguous cross-reference.**

**Biblical Cross-reference**: “*a notation or direction at one place to pertinent information at another place*.” Webster’s dictionary. (A note is put in one scripture to show related materials in another scripture.)

**Authors**: The bible is 66 books and 40 authors. Scripture is “God-breathed,” but God uses the author’s literary style.

**Context**: Be careful to compare topic to topic and context to context.

**Ambiguity**: Often, a cross-reference is ambiguous and sometimes even unrelated.

**Illustration**: Sowing and reaping. Matthew 13:7-8 doesn’t relate to 2 Corinthians 9:6-7.

**Overcoming corruption:**

"*14 Do all things without grumbling or disputing, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. 17 Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.*"

(Philippians 2:14–18)

**How to shine in a corrupt world**:

1. Do everything without complaining:
2. Hold fast to the word of life:

**Possible cross-references**:

1. Grumbling and disputing, (Exodus 16:8 and Exodus 17:7)
2. Crooked and twisted generation, (Deuteronomy 32:5 and Deuteronomy 9:12)
3. Drink offering, (2 Samuel 23:13-17)

**Paul’s ministers to the Philippians:**

**Timothy**: Philippians 2:19-24, He was sent to care for the Philippians.

*"For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare."*

(Philippians 2:20)

**Epaphroditus**: Philippians 2:25-30, He was sent to encourage the Philippians.

*"for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill."*

(Philippians 2:26)