

ARE WE CHRISTIANS Keeping Heaven Well in Mind, Not the Least Our Day of Departure?

By Jan Lilleby

My question is quite obviously rhetoric – the answer hangs in the air – but I do not judge anyone: No, I think that *we are not that good* in keeping heaven up above in mind. It has reasons pretty common to most of us. We all live down here on earth, and tendency is that this earthly life takes up most of our attention. Naturally. It often overshadows the thought of a heaven up above awaiting our arrival...perhaps one day soon. But it is not an escape from reality to be thinking much on heaven and Christ. For a Christian this should be a natural thing, Well, that is how it should be I believe.

PAUL TO THE CHURCH:

“If then you have been raised with Christ, aim at and seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.” (Col 3:1)

Paul also points out the general time-aspect in this regard:

“And set your minds on what is above, not on the things that are on the earth. For you have died (from the world) and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, Who is our life, appears, then you also will appear with Him in glory (in heaven).” (Col 3:2-4)

THE TIME ASPECT:

Jesus Himself spoke of this Second Advent for His believers in light of Him returning in the life time of the apostles.

His coming was immanent in the entire length of the Acts history, some 30 years. It should have taken place after Israel's repentance and baptism according to Peter's speech at Pentecost in Acts 2. God charged the whole nation to repent and believe on Jesus Messiah.

This special immanent coming promised them, Jesus told them not to make wild speculations of the time for that event. (Acts 1:7)

His coming was absolutely under special conditions: The entire nation of Israel had to repent and believe, or else the nation would be destroyed. See Peter's second speech in Acts 3:22, 23 – pointing to a prophesy by Moses of a destruction to come if they did not believe. You find this in Deu 18:15-19. But even so, the Acts witness of a disobedient and unrepentant Israel saying a final ultimate 'no thanks!' to the offer given them by God's apostles.

But in regard to the ultimate coming of Jesus (for He must come, regardless of whether Israel would receive Him) – the prophets have spoken. He, who spoke the more direct message to Israel, was Hosea. He was sent to the Northern Kingdom, the ten tribes.

God gave him a specific time aspect which we can fully trust, regarding the Second Advent!



When we – put briefly – shall set a time-frame or an approximate calculation of it, the time in which we can expect the conclusion of this present dispensation of the Church, such information has been laid down in Hos 6:2 – speaking of

the 'two days' and a 'third day'. These are so-called 'Prophetic Days' and not regular calendar days: Each day represent one thousand years.

When reading Hos 6:2 we have to start with the end of Chapter 5, which clearly tells us the 'Us' in 6:2 are not us of this time, it is the fallen unbelieving sinful Israel. 5:15 speaks of Messiah going home to heaven, and not returning back to Israel before they acknowledge their offense. So it reads:

"After two days He will revive us (Israel); on the third day He will raise us up that we may live before Him."

Hos 5:15 has placed these three millennia or 'Days' in a direct indisputable context of the Lord's Second Advent. Don't you agree?

In other words, the prophet thereby say that it had to be a day before those three mentioned, a 'Day' in which Israel died spiritually and fell away from God consequently. Agreed?

To be revived (back to life), as this word really means, and is telling that there had been a death first. Israel died. To be revived AFTER two thousand years have passed, must therefore mean that Israel are revived back to her old status as God's nation sat above all other nations, like before the fall which we read in Acts 28:25-28 – especially verse 27, they will not repent so I can heal the land.

After these two thousand years Israel will be made whole and healed, all according to the prophecies concerning the Millennial reign of Christ. The third day, or millennia, is that Millennia prophesied, for sure. And we are not yet there. And Israel cannot get there before Jesus has returned from heaven.

In order for Israel to come fully back to God, the present

dispensation has to be ended. God cannot have two different callings going parallel. This Church dispensation with its free grace gospel will end the same day that Elijah (and also Moses, Rev 11) appears in Israel, to start the Great Tribulation. But Israel in the Millennia, shall be serving Christ as His Royal Holy priesthood, all according to Ex 19:5, 6. But we, the Church of the One New Man in Christ (Eph 2:15) our calling is to be with Christ in the heaven up above heavens. We have no share in the earthly kingdom Millennia. These are two entirely different callings indeed.

That is why I find it right to present **two alternative time-aspects** for the conclusion of the Church dispensation:

The first: God sees Israel as having died in the year 62 AD, when Paul read them the stern judgement from Is 6 in Acts 28:25-28.

The second: God sees Israel as having died in the year 70 AD, when Rome broke through the fortifications and had Jerusalem and the temple destroyed.

There are not found any other realistic alternatives to this scenario in the Bible.

(Recently I found a few YouTube videos of a guy foretelling from stellar constellations, that the coming of judgement day would be at September 24 if I recall this correctly. In other words, he tried to figure it by Astrology, which is an occult method for predictions. Never believe such rubbish, friends. Believe on Christ and His Word, the Bible. Nothing happened at Sep 24 – and the poor fellow was put to shame...)

If it is the **first alternative:** then we find that the year of the conclusion of the Church age will be around 2026 – yes, a dramatically short time interval. Using the Jewish calendar of 360-days year. The Bible says that Elijah shall be sent before the day of the Lord (Matt 17, Mal 4, Rev 11) and with Moses. As the Church disappears from earth, Elijah

appears on earth, to administer the Great Tribulation; to enforce the repentance of the Zionist Israel. And this means we only have 11 years left! I actually hope that this is the right alternative, but I can't tell for sure. Like you, I am really sick and tired of the madness and calamities of this wrecked world.

If it is the **second alternative**: then we find the conclusion of the Church age to be in around 2034, which also is a short time, only 19 years. (Now is 2015)

So it is clear that our expectation to THAT DAY of departure for heaven should increase by the day as we look up and forward to that glory with Christ!

EDITED Nov 3-2015: *I was made aware recently, that the Jewish Calendar – as it always follows moon-earth equation – for every 19 years, add a 'Leap Month' of 30 days (Ve-Adar) – that is in other words a 13th month actually. But it still does not shake my use of Hos 6:2 much. As mentioned in another article, I have pointed to the discrepancy of the 'Four years with Governor Quirinius' as head of Syrian Roman rule. According to Roman logbooks he was Governor **four years before Our calendar of Christ's birth**. This – together with the 13th month only adds up to around 5 years more than the years I have used above, and so we are left with the **same impression** regarding timeline: It is but a few years left of the Church Dispensation! My intension never was to come up with exact days-months-years anyway. THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!*

It is clear that there will not pass new centuries before this happens. This is my main issue in this regard.

When we in this same breath take a brief look at the world situation with all the unrest, wars, rebellions, ISIS murder gangs, and the huge number of refugees fleeing for their lives, – it occurs to me that *also the Lord might find it reasonable and timely to end it all*. It seem to be on high time for the return of Jesus Christ to take the rudder and

steer this plagued earth into peace and order, ending all wars. He Who is given all power and might in heaven and on earth.

THE WORLD SITUATION:

Right now (autumn 2015) we have gotten the huge flow of refugees fleeing from war in Syria up through Europe, looking for a better place to stay.

That which the evil conspiring Zionist Israel stand behind, we Norwegians or other folks up north are imposed to bear the expenses for. And where will it all end?

Obviously our nation should try to offer some help, but on the other hand we cannot just give away our nation to strangers, can we? It has to have a limit whether we like it or not.

I think Zionist Israel which created this panic (by establishing the 'Rent-A-Mob' murder gang ISIS with CIA and Mossad), should open their borders and offer the poor refugees shelter. They could pay their expenses for what they themselves have caused. What a dirty game. They just dump their dirty work on our lawns.



By the way, have you noticed something very strange about this whole thing? When do you ever hear or read about ISIS attacking Israel? Have ISIS bombed Tel Aviv or Haifa? No, you only find this Rent-A-Mob

in all the other places. And have you noticed: Where on God's green earth do they get their brand new Toyota Pick Up trucks from? And the money to eventually buy such expensive equipment? It all comes out pretty odd don't you think?

All of a sudden the ISIS popped up out of nowhere...and all

the world screamed MURDER, MURDER!!!...and media (Jewish ones mostly!) had lined up ready footage and videos of the dangerous mob. Including the 'beheadings' – which not long ago were exposed as pure hoax. It had been filmed in a studio and images faked. There never were any beheadings. It is all constructed by Mossad/CIA so the blame can be cast upon the Muslims, demonizing them. In other words, the usual standard well approved technique of 'False Flag' operations constantly used by Zionist Israel from way back.



The war-monger John McCain, chairman of the *American Defense Committee* (I am uncertain of the right name) openly confessed in TV interviews to have stood behind CIA-training of the national Syrian rebels, in order to remove Assad. (McCain is a much hated/despised war monger by millions of honest peace loving US citizens).

And behind it all: The Zionist Israeli lobby in USA, which tells Obama and his staff and government what to do and what not! This has been standard procedure since the days of the Roosevelts, and only resisted by John F. Kennedy.

We all know what happened to him...you know, standing up against the Jewish lobby.

When will all of this come to an end?

I have the answer – just give me a few more minutes of your time, please.

It will not be, for instance, to start a new civil war to bring down the criminals. Has to be something/someone much more powerful! Get my drift?

I only want to mention Putin, before I give you my real

answer. Finally a few days back, Russia made severe air attacks against ISIS and rebel forces in Syria. And he is promising more, for as long as it takes. Putin does not want to play by the 'rules' of the wicked New World Order, who screwed up entirely in Iraq...since no weapons of mass destruction were ever found.

They murdered Saddam in cold blood, after having demonized him. As they later on also murdered Gadhafi. The N.W.O. gang don't give a 'rat's ass' in any national leader, elected by his people or not. They only go for their own greedy agenda and goals of world dominion, so they can let Zionist Israel take over once dust settles. All the world knows very well that it is the Jewish Zionist lobby in USA that decide what the nation shall do or not. The presidents and congress are obedient puppets all together.

When shall this cruel and illicit madness be stopped, and how? Israel is, for crying out loud, the mouse which holds the elephant's ear leading it on.

IT WILL HAVE TO BE THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST TO SETTLE IT
ONCE AND FOR ALL!



New World Order and its partners will be totally shocked and knocked out of their boots, when Jesus Christ appears on the sky with a host of super-natural angels.

You can forget those stupid and untrue images/paintings of a 'Dandy' Jesus with a little lamb wrapped around His neck. **No, it is the fierce powerful Christ seen in Rev 19-20 Who kills Anti-Christ and the other ungodly persons mentioned.** Two thirds of the unbelieving population will go down, and only one third will be spared. See below.

Since the ungodly lot of Zionists never believed on Jesus, but on the contrary they blasphemed His holy name (see Talmud, which is full of dirt!), – they will be even more shocked, scared and shaken than any other group of unbelieving conspirators.

Paul puts it this way:

“And to you who are so distressed and afflicted, He shall grant you relief and rest along with us WHEN THE LORD JESUS IS REVEALED FROM HEAVEN WITH HIS MIGHTY ANGELS IN A FLAME OF FIRE. To deal out retribution (chastisement and vengeance) upon those who do not know or become acquainted with God, and who ignore and refuse to obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.” (2 Thes 1:7, 8)

The Lord spoke of the same event and prophesied:

“Then the sign of the Son of Man (the cross?) will appear IN THE SKY, and then all the tribes of the earth will mourn and beat their breasts and lament in anguish, and they WILL SEE THE SON OF MAN COMING ON THE CLOUDS OF HEAVEN WITH POWER AND GREAT GLORY.”(Matt 24:30)

Revelation 19:11-16 show Jesus coming in great Power and glory:

“After that I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The One Who was riding it is called Faithful, Loyal, Incorruptible and True, and He passes judgment and wages war in righteousness. His eyes blaze like a flame of fire, and on His head are many kingly crowns; and He has a title

inscribed which He alone knows. He is dressed in a robe dyed by dipping in blood and the title by which He is called is The Word of God. And the troops of heaven, clothed in fine linen, dazzling and clean, followed Him on white horses. From His mouth goes forth a sharp sword with which He can smite the nations; and He will shepherd and control them With a staff of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fierceness of the wrath and indignation of God the Almighty. And on His garment and on His thigh He has a name inscribed: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS."

In the time before Paul and Jesus spoke of here, it is that we find the two prophets in Rev 11 – Moses and Elijah – who has chastised and worked miracles of plagues and disasters (called Egyptian Plagues) against the ungodly Zionist Israel. So much that the nation is almost beaten flat to the ground in pain, destruction and fear. Revelation Book say of those stricken: *And they blasphemed God for these plagues.* You see, blasphemy is a long, long practiced mishabit and grave sin among the world Jewry, especially those Zionist Jews in this scenario.

The Lord will no longer show mercy and longsuffering, but He swiftly cast a huge scary doom and destruction upon them, and no one can escape!

See my little booklet on this subject – *"Moses And Elijah Coming with The Day of Vengeance"* – to download for free. In Word format.

Jesu at His coming will only perform as the wrathful Judge of God and the Revenger of all blasphemy against His Holy Name (Ezek 36:23).

He is also the Executioner as He personally will execute those who oppose Him at His coming. All those among humankind who have stood against God and Christ as *atheists, blasphemers, jesus-haters, murdering conspirators like New*

World Order, the Rothschilds money-lovers, the corrupted military powers, the criminal national leaders going along with N.W.O and Zionists, false evangelicals who supported Christ's worst enemies on earth, the Zionists, and all who have committed fraud including the Holofoax, the 9/11 kills, the establishing of Rent-A-Mob ISIS and others like them – ALL WILL BE TAKEN SWIFTLY DOWN by Christ and His powerful angels! It is not going to be pretty! These New World Order leaders from the smallest to the greatest, they may smile now, but as Christ appears in such fierce and shocking manner, their smiles and selfassuredness will fall off like shells, and they will beg for mercy.

Only God knows *in detail* what will befall those ungodly men wherever in the world they may hide, after He first has established His Millennial Kingdom in Jerusalem. There will be the destruction of all types of Mafias everywhere! All conspiracy will be smashed to rubbles. All weapons of massdestruction will be confiscated and destroyed by Gods angelic powers. No more nukes.

If anyone tries to keep up the Holofoax fraud – likewise he shall be taken down, whether by imprisonment or killed right away. Scripture even say that if a man try to deliver a (false) prophesy, his own parents – in the presence of the Lord – shall sting him through with a spear! (Zec 13:3) Their '*Holy Temple*' of the Holocaust-religion, Auschwitz with its Disneyland like function, false watchtowers and a gas chamber built after WW2, will be leveled with the ground. No more falsehood driven by the money greed of Jewry.

I will not be surprised if Christ from Mt Zion in Jerusalem, will speak to the nations on media, telling them the true ***historic facts from the two world wars*** and other relevant information/truths. We can expect something like that, I believe. The world will be shocked again to learn that Holocaust-revisionists were right. Christ may also find it

in His will to speak of 9/11 and related disasters. The world has a lot coming to them, I can assure you. Christ's coming is so close to our time and the war-years past, that this seems linked together somehow. The Lord, I believe, cannot and will not pretend the wars didn't happen – so He will give His rightful lecturing on the subject.

Zechariah gives a prophetic forewarning of what will take place at the coming of Christ in Israel: (I already mentioned this above)

“And in all the land (Israel), says the Lord, two-thirds shall be cut off and perish, but one-third shall be left alive.” (Zec 13:8)

Moses said same thing: *“And you (Israel) shall be left few in number, whereas you had been as the stars of the heavens for multitude, because you would not obey the voice of the Lord your God.” (Deu 28:62)*

If Israel have increased to a population of – let's say – 12 million in about 20 years from now, that will mean 8 million will be killed in the Great Tribulation, a considerable figure...even surpassing the Holohoax-fraud of 6 mill dead in WW2.

ZIONISM WITH ITS CONSPIRATIVE ISRAEL MEETS SUDDEN DEATH.

And as I mentioned, the Holocaust-fraud is dumped in grave just as soon. All other lies and false Jewish Talmud and Kabbalah religions goes to the same destiny – dumped forever. All false religions will be taken care of in a righteous manner overseen by Christ.

The Lord Christ Jesus will re-configure and re-arrange every national government that opposes Him or otherwise tries to work against His government for the Millennial Kingdom. If an ungodly dishonest fraudulent American President try to manipulate his office, the Lord will see to it that he is

removed and punished. This goes for any leader anywhere in the world. No more faked elections and secret under-the-table-deals, no more inside-tradings. I even think that the occult symbolic obelisk called the Washington Monument, will have to go. It is an *offence to the Lord* that a nation which has a slogan "*In God We Trust*" – displays the opposite, an obelisk of occult masonic value, actually blaspheming God! Why not have a cross on top of a pillar? That would point to Christ and His atonement.

Dan 2:44 has already made it very clear regarding Christ's governing power world-wide:

"...shall the God of heaven set up a kingdom which shall never be destroyed, nor shall its sovereignty be left to another people (than the believing Jews): BUT IT SHALL BREAK AND CRUSH and consume all these kingdoms and it shall stand forever."

As I said, Christ will use His immense power and wisdom to restrain all opposition and eventual conspiracy against Him and His Kingdom. ***He will crush and break any nation which tries to go against Him!***

It is true when the prophets foretold of His reign as King: He shall govern the nations with His iron rod or staff – he shall kill the ungodly with the breath of His mouth, and He shall help the poor and inflicted.

The populations of the world will via media be able to see angels from heaven ascend and descend over the throne of Christ in Jerusalem:

"I tell you all, you shall see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man!" (John 1:51)

The reason for this move by God is obvious I think: The angels are a heavenly super-natural group of servants/even

warriors sent by God, but whom we only know from the pages of the Bible. We haven't seen any of them ourselves. The apostles saw them, as did Maria and a few others. But for the world in general to keep calm and be certain of the divine present power resting upon Christ, He let His angels be seen flying and landing near the temple site, and thus have peoples kept in awe of God and His power.

What remains after all the tribulations are then stilled and all is calm, is a NEW JESUS-BELIEVING ISRAEL, now with the old tribal system in place (Rev 7 and 14) – and Jesus governing together with His elect apostles from the tribulation past (see Rev 20:4-5).

No matter how much we as human beings in this world tries to rectify and make straight all the errors and Jewish frauds from WW1 and WW2 etcetera – and to try to remove bad presidents/national leaders/ New World Order, Rothschilds tyrants, whoever...there cannot be expected any serious result of such eventual efforts/actions, – we are absolutely dependent upon the Lord Jesus Christ to come from heaven such as described. And He will! We can trust the Bible on this one hundred percent.

HEAVEN: The Church's Future in Eternity – a Life in Retirement or..?

By Jan Lilleby

'And set your minds and keep them set on what is above (the higher things), not on the things that are on the earth.'
Col 3:2.



What kind of thoughts are occupying our minds concerning the hope of salvation for the church, heaven up above where Christ now is sitting with His Father in power and might?

Some will perhaps react saying 'Yes, but...so little has been written of heaven up above and what it is like up there – so we cannot expect to really have so many thoughts and ideas of what it is like!'

And I can of course understand such a reaction to the concept. And still, the Bible tells us to have our minds set on that heaven-up-above...and not on those things which are down here on earth. We cannot escape that fact, can we?

In that regard I wish to take us on a brief little sightseeing through these realms, for truly – we shall not come to an end with the greatness and splendor of heaven, God's goodness in Christ for us, awaiting us in heaven up above.

No human being in our time has seen heaven.

We have to go back to our apostle Paul and his writings on the subject, to track this concept...men having seen heaven and spoken with Christ in person after His ascension. And Paul wrote that he heard words up there which were forbidden to refer to others. The Lord told him to simply shut up.

It is therefore only the Bible which can give us sure information on things concerning heaven. What we are to do up there and the whole concept of us staying/living in heaven for all eternity in the presence of Christ and God. For it has to have a given purpose, we have to be doing something there, some sort of meaningful activity, right? I am convinced that us staying up there is not a situation which can be compared to a Vacation Resort, or a Retirement Home.

Heaven has a purpose which goes far beyond us only staying there to live as saved believers.

The Bible has already given us a safe clue: We are supposed to serve others, to help others – we are not to just live for ourselves. In short: We are meant to be serving under Christ's command at all times, carrying out His will and His bidding. This is also the order of today for all believers, isn't it?

Eph. 1:17-23 may very well be held as a program-declaration for us in this regard:

' For I always pray to the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, that He may grant you a spirit of wisdom and revelation (of insight into mysteries and secrets) in the knowledge of Him. 18: By having the eyes of your heart flooded with light, so that you can know and understand the hope to which He has called you, and how rich is His glorious inheritance in the saints. 19: And what is the immeasurable and unlimited and surpassing greatness of His power in and for us who believe, as demonstrated in the working of His mighty strength. 20: Which He exerted in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places. 21: Far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and every name that is named, not only in this age and in this world, but also in the age and in the world which are to come. 22: And

He has put all things under His feet and has appointed Him the universal and supreme Head of the church, 23: Which is His body, the fullness of Him Who fills all in all.'

The Bible anticipates that staying up there in the heavens, is a life which is like the life seen with God's angels! And as just quoted from Paul, it is His will for us to really understand and grasp that hope, that which is our calling. In other words, what that hope and that calling contains – and what will we be doing together with Christ? What kind of ministry if you like, are we going into? It is correct that we are saved by grace alone, in faith in Christ, it is a gift given by God. But in that grace, in that salvation-realm, it is God's indisputable will that we should understand what this means.

Mark 12:25 is a passage of inter-dispensational validity, speaking of what we become as we enter heaven up above.

'For when they arise from among the dead, men do not marry nor are the women given in marriage, but are like the angels in heaven.'

But even if Jesus say this to clear the dispute between the Pharisees and Sadducees (the latter did not believe in resurrection), He did not go on making any description of heaven and the things there, how the nature and the society etc will be. Even the rest of the Bible is pretty meager in this regard. It is mostly left to our imagination, however – the Bible gives us some clues to some of the key info to learn about heaven.

Jesus puts the saved believer clearly in heaven as an angelic being, and no longer just a human one. No more family, spouse, no children to come from the wife giving birth, and so on. We are like the angels in heaven, says the Lord.

This places us in an entirely new upgraded position, in

eternal angelic bodies, angelic power will I assume is included – but submitted the authority of Christ.

The Bible says this of Christ versus angels:

' He Himself (Christ) as much superior to angels as the glorious Name which He has inherited is different from and more excellent than theirs.'

Actually I will conclude that we, as saved believers up in heaven with Christ, is an all-new 'Breed' of angels: We have lived on earth as vulnerable human beings, exposed to sin and failure, sickness and infirmities, and all the sorrow plaguing humankind; and ultimately – death. Very unlike the angels God created to Himself way back. Nevertheless, we shall become like those eternal powerful angelic beings, and I even suppose that we may see ourselves ministering in like manner and power.

Angels in the Bible, as we make more reflections in the topic, are not just confined to heaven up above. No, they are seen down here as the messengers of God, as executors of punishments or blessings. It is too much to be mentioning it all here in the article.

Paul taught that angels were sat to minister to those who should inherit salvation. This was particularly in the Acts period, when he taught the New Covenant to Israel and proselytes. I do not think they are in ministry on earth in the church dispensation. We learn from Acts history how angels in many circumstances helped the apostles. They rescued Peter, Paul and Silas from jails and thus probably from getting themselves killed by the romans. See Acts 12:5-11 to learn how it went when an angel rescued Peter. Very exiting story.

Angels operate in a dimension which we as human beings just have gotten a few glimpses of. By a totally non-scientific way they seem to perform the impossible. No law of nature

can stop an angel from doing what he was sent for.

It is in this regard I dare believe that we see how it may be when we go into a heavenly ministry with Christ in heaven; we will have a power and an ability to do the work of Christ at His command. This has a dimension in it which is impossible to fully comprehend.

It may even be that we, just like angels of old, can operate both in heaven and on earth. It would not come as a surprise if this is so.

There has been written a lot of books in the topic 'Heaven – Hell – Eternity', in which Christian and non-Christian writers are telling their story of having been in heaven, or in Hell or both, and thus they give many freaking and weird descriptions. All of which is untrue. I have no idea whether they have written their fictive stories of heaven and hell in good faith. God will know whom, I am sure.

God has kept under cover most of the facts concerning heaven and how it looks up there. For the simple reason that if we learned really how things are up there – all the glorious heavenly things and blessings in Christ, we would go absolute 'bananas' – it would be unbearable to know of all that glory, and still having to remain on earth for a good number of years. God wanted to spare us of such pain and wanting...thus we are only given a few glimpses of that glory.

I am convinced that up in heaven, we will still be ourselves...we keep our own personality and psyche, only we will have a totally new heavenly body of power and life, a body that can operate in more than one dimension.

Jesus, after the resurrection, could all of a sudden just 'pop up' inside the room where His disciples were gathered, saying 'Peace Be Unto You'. He got inside there without using the door. And yet, He taught them that He was not a spirit, but of flesh and blood. Thomas put his finger into

the wound as the Lord told him to do this. He ate together with them. Super-natural heavenly angelic body, and yet He could act like a normal human being.

I leave it to the Bible reader to investigate and study more in this subject, since it concerns our future in eternity. And as I quoted in the first line above: We must have our minds set on heaven, wouldn't we?

There are Bible Teachers who suggest that our future life in heaven in angelic bodies/heavenly bodies is an act of God, filling up that *vacant vacuum left there since a third of the angels of heaven followed Satan is his fall*. It may very well be so, it is not unlikely.

Nevertheless, let us look forward to that eternity in heaven in knowledge of Christ and what Paul teaches us in Ephesians and Colossians.

P H I L I P P I A N S : **Was It Written During** **Acts Period or Post Acts?**

By Irene M. Walther, Orlando, FL, USA



When was the book Philippians written, during the Acts period or post Acts? The lists for each chapter contain words and expressions that indicate

the time frame, from the Rotherham Emphasized Bible.

Chapter 1

ACTS PERIOD

V1 “overseers”, word 1985, used in Acts 20:28, 1 Tim 3:2, Titus 1:7 and 1 Peter 2:25. All Acts period. See below.

POST ACTS

V9 “personal knowledge & perception”, also in Eph. 1:17 & Col. 1:9

ACTS PERIOD

V6 “day of Jesus Christ” (no article), day of Christ also in **Phil 1:10 & 2:16**, alternate reading of 2 Thes. 2:2; day of the Lord (Lord Jesus or Lord Jesus Christ): Acts 2:20, 1 Cor. 1:8, 5:5, 2 Cor. 1:14, 1 Thes. 5:2, 2 Thes. 2:2, 2 Peter 3:10. All Acts period. See below

POST ACTS

V 27 “in a manner worthy of the gospel of the Christ”, Eph. 4:1

ACTS PERIOD

V10 “incorrupt” word 677, also in Acts 24:16 and 1 Cor.

10:32 Acts period

V10 “differ” word 1308, 12 other uses, Mat. 6:26, 10:31, 12:12, Mark 11:16, Luke 12:7, 12:24, Acts 13:49, 27:27, Rom. 2:18, 1 Cor. 15:41, Gal. 2:6, 4:1. All Acts period.

V13 “in bonds”, manifest to whole palace guard”, Paul was in bonds both during the Acts period as well as post Acts

POST ACTS

V13 “in bonds”

ACTS PERIOD

V13 “in the whole palace”, the word “palace”, word 4232, is used 7 other times – Mat. 27:27, Mark 15:16, John 18:28 (2), John 18:33, John 19:9, Acts 23:35. Gospels and Acts. See below.

V14 others more bold in preaching, no opposition after Acts 28:31

V28 “destruction”, word 684, by Paul 4 times – Rom. 9:22, **Phil 3:19**, 2 Thes. 2:3, 1 Tim. 6:9. Acts period. 16 other times in the New Testament

V29 “to suffer on His behalf”, word 3958, used by Paul 6 other times, 1 Cor. 12:26, 2 Cor. 1:6, Gal. 3:4, 1 Thes. 2:14, 2 Thes. 1:5, 2 Tim. 1:12, all Acts period; and a total of 42 times in the New Testament

Verse 1, Overseer (Word 1985)

1. Ac 20:28 Be taking heed unto yourselves, and unto all the **little flock** in which the Holy Spirit hath set, you, as overseers,—to be **shepherding** the assembly of God which he hath acquired through means of the blood of his own. (Paul instructing the Ephesian elders.)

2. Php 1:1 Paul and Timothy, servants of Jesus Christ,—unto all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with overseers and ministers:—

3. 1Ti 3:2 It is needful, then, for, the overseer, to be irreproachable, a husband, of one wife, sober, of sound mind, orderly, hospitable, apt in teaching,

4. Tit 1:7 For it is needful that the overseer be—unaccusable, as God’s steward, not self-willed, not soon angry, not given to wine, not ready to wound, not seeking gain by base means,

5. 1Pe 2:25 For ye were as **sheep** going astray, but have now turned back unto the **shepherd** and overseer of your souls.

Verse 6, Day of Jesus Christ

Below are all of the New Testament verses that discuss **the day of the Lord**, Christ, and/or Jesus. Day is Strong’s word 2250, Lord is 2962, Christ is 5547, and Jesus is 2424.

1. Ac 2:20 The sun, shall be turned into darkness and, the moon, into blood,—before the coming of the day of the Lord, the great and manifest day;

2. 1Co 1:8 Who will also confirm you unto the end, unaccusable in **the day of our Lord Jesus Christ**:

3. 1Co 5:5 To deliver such a one as this, unto Satan, for the destruction of the flesh,—that, the spirit, may be saved in **the day of the Lord**.

Alternate readings: 1. Lord Jesus, 2. Lord Jesus Christ

4. 2Co 1:14 According as ye have also acknowledged us, in part,—that, your theme of boasting, we are, even indeed as, ye, also shall be, ours, in **the day of our Lord Jesus**.

Alternate reading: our Lord

5. Php 1:6 Being persuaded of this very thing—that, he who hath begun in you a good work, will perfect it, until **the day of Jesus Christ**;

Alternate reading: *Christ Jesus*

6. Php 1:10 To the end ye may be putting to the test the things that differ, in order that ye may be incorrupt and may give no occasion of stumbling, unto **the day of Christ**,

7. Php 2:16 A word of light, holding forth,—as a matter of boasting unto me, for **the day of Christ**,—that, not in vain, I ran, nor, in vain, I toiled:—

8. 1Th 5:2 For, ye yourselves, perfectly well know that, **the day of the Lord**, as a thief in the night, so, cometh

9. 2Th 2:2 That ye be not quickly tossed from your mind, nor be put in alarm—either by spirit, or by discourse, or by letter as by us, as that **the day of the Lord**, hath set in:

Alternate reading: *Christ*

10. 2Pe 3:10 Howbeit **the day of the Lord** will be here, as a thief,—in which, the heavens, with a rushing noise, will pass away, while, elements, becoming intensely hot, will be dissolved, and, earth, and the works therein, will be discovered.

The other seven uses of the terms are in Acts period books and refer to the earthly kingdom promised to Israel. Is it logical to think that the three uses in Philippians of the same terms are referring to a different day than the other seven uses?

Verse 13, Palace (Word 4232)

1. Mt 27:27 Then the soldiers of the governor, taking Jesus aside into the judgment-hall, gathered unto him all the

band;

2. Mr 15:16 And, the soldiers, led him away, inside the court, which is a judgment-hall,—and called together the whole band;

3. Joh 18:28a So they lead Jesus from Caiaphas unto the judgment-hall.

4. Joh 18:28b Now it was early; and, they themselves, entered not into the judgment-hall, that they might not be defiled, but might eat the passover.

5. Joh 18:33 Pilate, therefore, entered again into the judgment-hall; and addressed Jesus, and said unto him—Art, thou, the king of the Jews?

6. Joh 19:9 and entered into the judgment-hall again, and saith unto Jesus—Whence, art, thou? But, Jesus, gave him no, answer. (All of the above verses are about Christ Jesus trial in Jerusalem.)

7. Ac 23:35 I myself will hear thee in full, said he, whensoever, thine accusers also, are come; and gave orders that, in the palace of Herod, he should be kept under guard. (*Paul in Jerusalem.*)

8. Php 1:13 So that, my bonds, have become manifest in Christ, in the Whole palace, and unto all the rest

Chapter 2

ACTS PERIOD

V10 “every knee shall bow” Romans 14:11, quoted from Is. 45:23; LXX uses same Greek words, 1119 (knee) and 2578 (bow) as Phil. & Rom.

The context of Isaiah 45 is Israel; the word is used 6

times, v 3, 4, 11, 15, 17, and 25. The Lord is the only true God, the only one that can save.

Philippians context is the walk of believer, in humility, Christ as example.

Romans 14:11 “For it is written—Living am, I, saith the Lord, unto me, shall bow every knee, and, every tongue, shall openly confess unto God.” The context is the Acts period believers walk, their judgment of fellow believers, and their giving account of themselves to God.

POST ACTS

V26-27 Epaphroditus was sick unto Death

ACTS PERIOD

V11 “every tongue shall confess”, Rom. 14:11; quoted from Is. 45:23, LXX uses same Greek words, 1100 (tongue) & 1843 (confess) as Phil. & Rom. Acts period

V12 “work out (2716) your own salvation (4991)”, two words in 2 Cor. 7:10. Acts period

V15 “harmless” (186) used two other times, Mat. 10:16 & Rom. 16:19. Gospel and Acts period.

V17 “poured out” (4689) also 2 Tim. 4:6; 18 times in LXX. See below

Verse 17, “Poured Out” (Word 4689)

1. Gen 35:14 And Jacob set up a pillar, in the place where he had spoken with him, a pillar of stone,—and he poured out thereon, a drink-offering, and poured thereon, oil.

2. Ex 25:29 and thou shalt make its dishes, and its pans, and its basins, and its bowls, for pouring out therewith,—of

pure gold, shalt thou make them.

3. Ex 30:9 Ye shall not cause to ascend thereupon strange incense, nor an ascending-sacrifice, nor a meal-offering,—and, a drink offering, shall ye not pour out thereupon.

4. Ex 37:16 and he made the utensils which were to be upon the table, its dishes, and its pans, and its bowls, and its basins, for pouring out therewith,—of pure gold.

5. Num 4:7 And upon the table of showbread they shall spread a cloth of blue, and put thereon the dishes, and the spoons, and the bowls and the cups wherewith to pour out; and the continual bread shall be thereon: (American Standard Version)

6. Num 28:7 Also the drink-offering thereof, the fourth of a hin for each lamb,—in a holy place, shall it be poured out, as a libation of strong drink unto Yahweh.

7. 2 Sam 23:16 And the three mighty men brake through the camp of Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was within the gate, and bare it, and brought it in unto David,—yet would he not drink, but poured it out unto Yahweh,

8. 1 Chr 11:18 And the three brake through the host of the Philistines, and drew water out of the well of Bethlehem, that was within the gate, and bare it, and brought it in unto David,—yet would not David drink it, but poured it out unto Yahweh;

9. Jer 7:18 The children, gather wood, and, The fathers, kindle the fire, and, The women, knead dough,—To make sacrificial cakes, to the queen of the heavens, And to pour out drink-offerings, to other, gods, Provoking me to anger!

10. Jer 19:13 Yea, the houses of Jerusalem, and the houses

of the kings of Judah, shall, like the place of Topheth, be places defiled,—even all the houses, upon whose roofs they burned incense, to all the host of the heavens, and poured out drink-offerings to other, gods.

11. Jer 32:29 And the Chaldeans, who are fighting against this city, Shall enter, and, Shall set this city on fire, and, Shall consume it,—With the houses on whose roofs they burned incense to Baal, and poured out drink-offerings to other, gods, that they might provoke me to anger;

12. Jer 44:17 but, we will certainly do, the whole thing that hath gone forth out of our own mouth, by burning incense to the queen of the heavens, and pouring out to her drink-offerings, just as, we and our fathers, and our kings and our princes, did, in the cities of Judah, and in the streets of Jerusalem,—then were we filled with bread, and became prosperous, and, calamity, saw we none;

13. Jer 44:19a And, though we, are burning incense to the queen of the heavens and pouring out to her, drink-offerings,

14. Jer 44:19b is it, without our men, that we have made to her sacrificial cakes as images of her, and poured out to her, drink-offerings?

15. Jer 44:25 Thus, saith Yahweh of hosts, God of Israel, saying, Ye and your wives, have both spoken with your mouth and, with your hands, have ye fulfilled, saying, We will, certainly perform, our vows which we have vowed, to burn incense to the queen of the heavens, and to pour out to her, drink-offerings: the women, will certainly confirm, your vows, and, certainly perform, your vows.

16. Ez 20:28 When I brought them into the land, as to which I had lifted up mine hand to give it them, then beheld they every high hill and every tangled tree, And offered, there, their sacrifices, And presented, there, their provoking,

gift, And placed, there, their satisfying, odour, And poured out, there, their drink-offerings.

17. Dan 2:46 Then, King Nebuchadnezzar, fell upon his face, and, unto Daniel, paid adoration; and, a present and sweet odours, gave he word to pour out unto him.

18. Hos 9:4 They shall not pour out to Yahweh—wine, neither shall they be pleasing to him, their sacrifices, are as the food of mourning to them, all that eat thereof, shall defile themselves, because, their food for their appetite, entereth not into the house of Yahweh.

2 Timothy 4:6: For, I, already, am being poured out as a drink-offering, and, the season of my release, is at hand,—

Chapter 3

ACTS PERIOD

V2 “dogs” word 2965, used four other times, Mat. 7:6, Luke 16:21, 2 Peter 2:22, Rev. 22:15. All Israel

POST ACTS

V12 Paul striving for perfection; Col. 1:28 admonishing believers to become Perfect

ACTS PERIOD

V4-6 Paul lists his confidence in the flesh according to the Jewish religion; they are a loss compared to the excellency of knowing Christ; the list was significant when Jews were first during Acts period, but not after Acts 28 Israel

V9 not having his own righteousness which is out of the law but the righteousness but through faith in Christ; after Acts 28, the law was set aside Israel

V 10 & 11 “resurrection” not used in Ephesians and Colossians, used 42 times, 8 by Paul, v11 is a special word used nowhere else

V14 “prize” (1017) used one other time, 1 Cor. 9:24 Acts period

V16 “rank” “rule” (2583) in KJV, used in 2 Cor. 10:13, 15, 16; Gal. 6:16; Acts period. Darby translates as “rule” except in Phil.; Young translates as “line” in the three Cor. verses & “rule” in Gal. & Phil.; Rotherham as “limit” in Cor.

V17 “ensample” word 5179, used 15 more times, John 20:25 (2x), Acts 7:43, Acts 7:43, 44, 23:25, Rom. 5:14, 6:17, 1 Cor. 10:6 & 11, 1 Thes. 1:7, 2 Thes. 3:9, 1 Tim. 4:12, Titus 2:7, Heb. 8:5, 1 Peter 5:3. All Israel

V19 “shame” word 152, used 5 other times, Luke 14:9, 2 Cor. 4:2, Heb. 12:2, Jude 1:13, Rev. 3:18. All Israel

V 19 “earthly things” word 1919, used 5 other times, John 3:12, 1 Cor. 15:40, 2 Cor. 5:1, Phil. 2:10, James 3:15. All Israel

V20 “waiting for the Lord Jesus Christ”, word “wait” 553 used 6 other times, Rom. 8:19, 23, 25, 1 Cor. 1:7; Gal. 5:5, Heb. 9:28 All Acts period

V21 “body (4983) of glory (1391)”; the two words are used together in one verse, 1 Cor. 15:40. Acts period

V21 “Who will transfigure our humbled body, into conformity with his glorified body” cross reference 1 John 3:2. Israel

Chapter 4

ACTS PERIOD

V1 “crown” word 4735 used 17 other times, Mat. 27:29, Mark 15:17, John 19:2, 5, 1 Cor. 9:25, 1 Thes. 2:19, 2 Tim. 4:8, James 1:12, 1 Peter 5:4, Rev. 2:10, 3:11, 4:4, 10; 6:2, 9:7, 12:1, 14:14. All Israel

V3 “book of life” quoted from Psalm 69:28

Word “book” words 975 & 976, “life” word 2222

975 & 2222, Rev. 17:8, 20:12, 21:27

976 & 2222, Phil. 4:3, Rev. 3:5, 13:8, 20:15 (Rev. 22:19, most manuscripts have “tree” rather than “life”.)

All other uses of 975 – Mat. 19:7, Mark 10:4, Luke 4:17 (2x), 20, John 20:30, 21:25, Gal. 3:10, 2 Tim. 4:13, Heb. 9:19, 10:7, Rev. 1:11, 5:1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9; 6:14, 20:12 (2 x), 22:7, 9, 10, 18 (2x), 19;

All other uses of word 976 – Mat. 1:1, Mark 12:26, Luke 3:4, 20:42, Acts 1:20, 7:42, 19:19, Rev. 22:19 (2x). All Israel. See below.

V5 “near” or “at hand”, word 1451, used 29 other times, always with the idea of “being near”. Paul used it 3 times in Eph. 2:13, 17 and Rom. 10:8. All other uses in the gospels, Acts, Hebrews & Revelation.

Others verses with the idea that the Lord is near: Mat. 24:33, Mark 13:29, Luke 21:31, Rev. 1:3, 22:10. See below.

V22 “All the saints salute you, but especially they who are of Caesar’s household.” See note on chapter 1:13. Paul was not an enemy of Rome that he would have been imprisoned in Caesar’s palace in Rome. Paul is referring to those believers in the palace in the land of Israel where he was held as a prisoner.

Verse 3, Book of Life

Psalm 69:28 Let them be blotted out of the book of life,
And, with the righteous, let them not be enrolled.

Life (Word 2222) and Book (Word 976)

1. Php 4:3 Yea! I request thee also, true yokefellow, be thou helping together with these women,—who, indeed, in the joyful message, have maintained the combat with me, along with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow-workers, whose names, are in the book of life.

2. Re 3:5 He that overcometh, shall, thus, array himself in white garments, and in nowise will I blot out his name, from the book of life; and I will confess his name before my Father, and before his messengers.

3. Re 13:8 And all they who are dwelling upon the earth will do homage unto him,—every one whose name is not written in the scroll of life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.

Alternate Reading: Re 13:8 And all that dwell on the earth shall worship him, every one whose name hath not been written from the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb that hath been slain. (American Standard Version)

4. Re 20:15 And, if anyone was not found, in the book of life, written, he was cast into the lake of fire.

Verse 3, Life (Word 2222) and Book (Word 975)

1. Re 17:8 The wild-beast which thou sawest, was, and is not, and is about to come up out of the abyss, and into, destruction, goeth away. And they who are dwelling upon the Earth whose name is not written upon the book of life from the foundation of the world, will be astonished, when they see the wild-beast, because it was, and is not, and shall be

present.

2. Re 20:12 And I saw the dead, the great and the small, standing before the throne; and, books, were opened, and, another book, was opened, which is, the book, of life; and the dead, were judged, out of the things written in the books, according to their Works.

3. Re 21:27 And in nowise shall there enter into it, anything common, or he that doeth abomination and falsehood,—but only they who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

Verse 5, Near (Word 1451)

Paul's three usages:

Eph 2:13 But, just now, in Christ Jesus, ye, who (nations) at one time were afar off, were made nigh in the blood of the Christ;

Eph 2:17 And, coming, he announced the glad-message—of peace, unto you (the nations), the far off, and peace, unto them that were nigh (Israel);

In these two Ephesians verses, Israel had been near while the nations had been far off. This was before the good news of Christ Jesus that the middle wall of partition had been broken down (Ephesians 2:14) and now the nations were joint-heirs with Israel (Ephesians 3:6). The second coming of Jesus Christ is not the subject of these verses.

Rom 10:8 But what saith it? Near thee, is the declaration, In thy mouth and in thy heart,—that is, the declaration of the faith, which we proclaim:—

The use of “near” in Romans refers to the declaration of faith.

Some verses where “near” is used for the Lord’s return.

Mat 24:33 Thus, ye also, when ye shall see all these things, observe ye, that, near, he is, at the doors.

Mark 13:29 Thus, ye also, when ye shall see these things coming to pass, observe ye, that, near, he is, at the doors.

Luke 21:31 Thus, ye also, whensoever ye shall see, these, things coming to pass, observe ye, that, near, is the kingdom of God!

Rev 1:3 Happy! he that readeth, and they who hear, the words of the prophecy, and keep the things, therein, written; for, the season, is, near.

Rev 22:10 And he saith unto me—Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this scroll, for, the season, is, near:

The remaining 21 uses of word 1451 are Mat 24:32, 26:18, Mark 13:28, Luke 19:11, 21:30, John 2:13, 3:23, 6:4, 19, 23; 7:2, 11:18, 54, 55; 19:20, 42; Acts 1:12, 9:38, 27:8, Heb. 6:8, 8:13.

Parallels Between Philippians and Matthew

Charles Welch in his book, *‘Parable, Miracle, and Sign’*, saw the parallels between Philippians and Matthew. However he did not recognize that Philippians also spoke of the earthly kingdom. Below is that section from his book. This author placed in **blue font** the text with which she disagrees.

Parallels with Philippians

We have sought to show that the Sermon on the Mount, while not the ‘Laws of the Kingdom’ or the ‘Charter of the Church’, gives exhortations and commands to those believers who in a period of rejection look forward to the kingdom, and give up all in their desire to be counted worthy to

obtain an entrance and receive the reward.

It will be confirmatory evidence to show the parallels that exist with the epistle to the Philippians. We already know that Philippians is the epistle of the Prize. *It stands to the church of the One Body in the same relationship as the Sermon on the Mount stands to the subject of the kingdom of heaven. While the sphere of these two parts of Scripture varies, the underlying principle is the same.*

(1) *The Place of Self* – We observed that the believer is urged in Matthew 6 to ‘seek first the kingdom of God’, so in Philippians 2, the Apostle writes:

‘Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others ... For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ’s’ (Phil. 2:4, 21).

(2) *Suffering, Rejoicing and Reward* – The Sermon on the Mount says:

‘Blessed are ye, when men shall revile you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely, for My sake. Rejoice, and be exceeding glad: for great is your reward in heaven’ (Matt. 5:11, 12).

Philippians says:

‘But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel; so that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places ... some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will: the one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds ... What then? ... I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice ... For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on Him, but also to suffer for His sake’ (Phil.

1:12-18, 29).

(3) *Perfection, the Standard*

'Be ye therefore perfect, even as your Father which is in heaven is perfect' (Matt. 5:48).

'Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect ... Let us therefore, as many as would be perfect, be thus minded. According to a mark I press toward the prize' (Phil. 3:12-15 Author's translation).

(4) *Sonship should be manifest*

'Love your enemies ... that ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven' (Matt. 5:44, 45).

'That ye may be blameless and harmless, the sons of God, without rebuke' (Phil. 2:15).

(5) *The light must shine*

'Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven' (Matt. 5:16).

'Shine ye (A.V. margin) as lights in the world; holding forth the word of life' (Phil. 2:15, 16).

(6) *A spirit of yielding in contrast with self-assertion*

'Blessed are the poor in spirit' (Matt. 5:3)

,
'Blessed are the meek' (Matt. 5:5),

'Resist not evil: but whosoever shall smite thee on thy right cheek, turn to him the other also. And if any man will sue thee at the law, and take away thy coat, let him have

thy cloak also. And whosoever shall compel thee to go a mile, go with him twain' (Matt. 5:39-41).

'Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus ... the form of God ... the form of a servant ... He humbled Himself' (Phil. 2:5-8).

'Let your moderation (yieldingness) be known unto all men' (Phil. 4:5).

(7) Anxiety over daily affairs

'Take no thought (merimnao) for your life' (Matt. 6:25).

'Take no thought for the morrow' (Matt. 6:34).

'Be careful (*merimnao*) for nothing' (Phil. 4:6).

The verb *merimnao*, 'to take anxious thought; be anxious', occurs in the prison epistles only in Philipppians. There in that epistle it occurs twice. Seen together they present the truth complete.

'Be careful (anxious) for nothing' (Phil. 4:6).

'I have no man likeminded, who will naturally care for your state (be anxious concerning your affairs). For all seek their own' (Phil. 2:20, 21).

It is impossible to be anxious over self, if one seeks first the kingdom of God and the blessing of others. This spirit should be that of all who seek the prize.

(8) Contrasted with the reward is destruction

'Wide is the gate, and broad is the way, that leadeth to destruction (*apoleia*), and many there be which go in thereat' (Matt. 7:13).

'Many will say to Me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy name? ... depart from Me, ye that work

iniquity' (Matt. 7:22, 23).

'Many walk ... whose end is destruction' (apoleia) (Phil. 3:18, 19).

For further light on this meaning of destruction consider the bearing of 1 Corinthians 3:11-17, also Matthew 25:31-46, where entry into the kingdom is contrasted with aionion fire, 'Depart from Me'.

(9) A censorious spirit is to be shunned

'Judge not, that ye be not judged' (Matt. 7:1).

'Why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother's eye, but considerest not the beam that is in thine own eye?' (Matt. 7:3).

'In lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves' (Phil. 2:3).

'Whatsoever things are true ... honest ... just ... if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on (impute) these things' (Phil. 4:8).

If it were necessary, we could turn to the epistles to the Hebrews and of James for further parallels, but we feel the truth is sufficiently established, and space is valuable. While clearly seeing the place which the Sermon on the Mount occupies, let us beware of that supercilious spirit, that spiritual pride which, alas, sometimes contradicts the professed faith of those who 'rightly divide the Word of truth'.

C o n c l u s i o n

The following words and phrases show that Philippians was written during the Acts period:

1. Overseers, in Acts period assemblies
2. Day of Jesus Christ, earthly kingdom
3. Incorrupt
4. Differ
5. In bonds
6. Palace in Jerusalem
7. Opposition to preaching the Word
8. Destruction
9. To suffer on His behalf
10. Every knee shall bow, Isaiah quote
11. Every tongue confess, Isaiah quote
12. Work out your salvation
13. Harmless
14. Being poured out, OT offerings
15. Dogs, false circumcision
16. Advantages of Jews
17. Law not set aside
18. Resurrection
19. Prize
20. Rank
21. Ensample
22. Shame
23. Earthly things
24. Waiting for the Lord
25. Body of glory
26. Crown
27. Book of Life
28. Lord is near
29. Parallels with Sermon on the Mount

The following words and phrases may show that Philippians was written after the Acts period:

1. Personal knowledge and perception; also used in Ephesians and Colossians
2. Walk in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ; also stated in Ephesians

3. In bonds
4. Epaphroditus was sick unto death
5. Paul striving for perfection; Col. 1:28 admonishing believers to become Perfect

Numbers 1, 2, and 5 are general admonitions for all callings and dispensations.

Number 3, Paul was in bonds both during the Acts period and post Acts when he wrote Ephesians and Colossians.

None of these four establish the time of writing as being after the close of the book of Acts. That leaves number 4.

Paul had the gift of healing during the Acts period. Yet Paul himself had a thorn in the flesh that he couldn't and God wouldn't heal, 2 Corinthians 12:7-9. He also told Timothy to drink wine for the sake of his stomach, 1 Timothy 5:23.

The sign gifts such as healing were for the unbelieving Jews, 1 Corinthians 1:22. Paul was not healed from all of the abuse that he suffered from beatings, stoning, etc. Luke the physician was his companion to tend to his physical needs. Paul and the other workers of the Lord were not automatically healed. In 2 Timothy 4:20, Paul stated: Erastus, remained in Corinth; but, Trophimus, I left at Miletus, sick.

The fact that Epaphroditus was sick unto death does not prove that Philippians was written after the close of the book of Acts.

The overwhelming evidence of the words and phrases prove that Philippians was written during the Acts period.