

Elder Bobby Willis



Philippians 4:8, **“Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of a good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.”**

The Apostle Paul, in the fourth chapter of Philippians, speaks favorably of the church at Philippi while exhorting them to remain faithful in the cause of Christ. This whole book is beautifully written to give an account of the respect the church at Philippi had for Paul, and of which he had for them. Philippians II says, **“For the same cause also do ye joy, and rejoice with me.”** He was the preacher of the gospel of Christ who had first shared the good news of their Saviour with them and their hearts were heavy in learning of Paul’s imprisonment in Rome. He had once been imprisoned and had endured a public beating for his teachings while in Philippi. Read these accounts in Acts 16:9-10 and vs. 12. Paul desired to send Timothy to them but first sent Epaphroditus, who was Paul’s **“companion in labour, and fellowsoldier”** and was their **“messenger.”**

Paul, in this precious letter, admonishes them to remain faithful, to continue to adhere to godly principles, and to watch out for those who would infiltrate the truth by trying to bring the old things of the law into the New Testament Church. Also, Paul reminded them of the proper use of works. Works of righteous are to be done because we have had the grace of God bestowed upon us. These works are NOT for *‘working our way to heaven.’* We show our faith by our works (James 2:18). This faith, which is a gift of God, comes first which enables us to do righteous works of bringing praise, honor, and glory to God.

Paul's wish for this church was **“That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ,”** and to be **“filled with the fruits of righteousness”** (Philippians 1:10-11). Then in Philippians 4:8, Paul reminds the brethren that things which are true, honest, just, pure, lovely, and of a good report; are things which they need to embrace. He used the phrase **“to think on these things.”** What better **“things”** can we think on than

godly virtues which bring honor to God. It would do us all good to ... ***Think About It!***