

Examples Worth Honoring Philippians 2:19-30

This passage offers far more than just travel plans for two fellows! These guys are real heroes who are great examples for us to follow!



Why the need to send Timothy . . . but not now. 19-24

- ◆ Timothy is Paul's preferred messenger (recall he had a rapport with Philippi, vs.22, Acts 16) and Paul's favorite rep. (I Cor. 4:16,17, I Thess. 3:1,2), though we often tend to think of I Tim. 1:7,8, 4:12, II Tim. 5:23.
- ◆ He is a Christ-like example of selfless service (compare 20b to 4,5).
- ◆ He is unique in his selfless service. Hyperbole or a dire indictment?
- ◆ *Be concerned* in 20b = good attitude, but it is the same word in 4:6a that is translated *Be anxious*. We will tackle that in 4:6!

Why the need to send Epaphroditus . . . and right away. 25-30

- ◆ Why is Paul piling up the honors on him? Hint, see also 29,30.
- ◆ Why is Paul repeatedly pointing out he risked his life / nearly died? Note theme of "rejoicing" pops up (28). We just saw this in 2:17,18.
- ◆ Epaphroditus was possibly a veteran of the Roman Legion--maybe even with the Praetorian Guard (recall 1:13, and who better to go?). Note that Epaphroditus is also called a *fellow soldier* . . . perhaps suggestive of his former life?
- ◆ Verse 30b (*deficient*) ≠ a guilt trip but simply the recognition of his completion of an unfinished task, as in I Cor. 16:17, Col. 1:24.