

## Philippians 2:19-30 Part 4

1. I will send timothy immediately – vs. 23 – Timothy was ready to go. He had been under the teaching of Paul and took advantage of the time to prepare for his purpose in the ministry of Christ. Timothy did not waste any of the time he spent with Paul. How about you? Are you just wasting the time you spend in bible study or in preparing to witness?
2. I will be coming soon – vs. 24 – Paul desired to go to the Philippians church as well. He wasn't just sending others to do the work he knew he should do, but he sent those ahead who could go right now, fully believing he was free to go later.
3. It is necessary to send Epaphroditus – vs. 25 – Paul knew that Epaphroditus was not just a fellow worker, soldier, but also one of the leaders of the church since Paul started it earlier. Paul spent time validating these two people in order to ensure that the church would accept them and Paul's message. It is critical that we be where we need to be, doing what we should be doing, so God can use us as He planned.
4. Because Epaphroditus was longing for you – vs. 26 – He had been with Paul to minister to him in prison to his own peril. He became ill and even sick "unto death". So Paul wanted to get him back to his own hometown.
5. Receive him with joy and treat him with "high regard" – vs. 27-30 – Here Paul lets the church know and hopefully understand that Epaphroditus had sacrificed so much for the gospel that they need to honor him as a special messenger of God. He had really risked his life doing what the church should have been doing but didn't. And Paul wanted them to understand that he knew that fact.