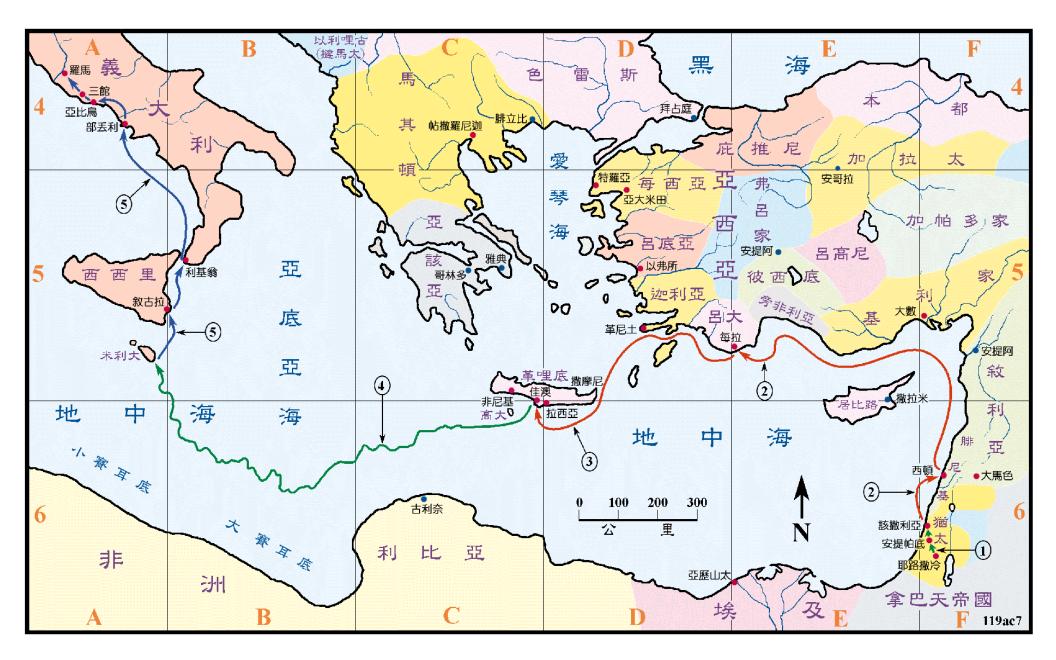
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## 腓立比书: 确定作者的写信目的

- 读多遍
- 回答三个问题:
  - 主题是什么?
  - 关于这个主题,讲了哪几个主要方面?- 作者为什么写这封信?
- 尝试给全书分成大的段落,确定每一大段的主题意思。注意与整卷书主题的关系。





- 一位:保罗知道有人顺便去腓立比,所以写一封 "家常信",交流他的情况和对腓立比教会的感恩 和想念。
- 一位:保罗的目的是为了要揭示神的奥秘(弗 3:6),并以此在腓立比教会受苦的时候坚固他们, 使教会按着神的心意在基督里合一,站立的稳,激 励他们得天上的奖赏。主题:在基督里同为一体 (与弗3:6相呼应)
- 3. 一位: 要帮助腓立比教会处理他们的问题
- 4. 一位: 激励腓立比教会的圣徒们在所信的道上长进, 喜乐,竭力追求基督,得着基督所要我们得的。
- 5. 一位: 鼓励腓立比教会的弟兄姐妹在传福音、生命 成长和教会建造上继续努力向前。



## A. 线索:

- very strong personal ties (support Paul in gospel, participation, personal assistant, financial, etc. 1:1– 11,2:25–30, 4:10–20);
- Paul sharing his personal concerns and thoughts (1:12-26); wanting to go himself;
- Philippians faced opposition and experienced suffering (1:28-30, 4:14);
- another situation is dis-unity among members (4:2-3);
- 3<sup>rd</sup> issue is about teachings regarding law (e.g., circumcision);
- encourages their participation and persistence in the progress of gospel;
- sharing examples of Christ (2), Paul (3), and other coworkers, in terms of humbleness, self-giving, and joy (1:27-30; etc).
- B. 内容是多重还是单一?
- C. 作者是按顺序一一谈论还是穿插?
- D. 所有内容如何归总成为作者写信的原意?

Overall background in NT: After taking the gospel to strategic cities and forming the new believers into local churches, Paul began a process of establishing these churches in the Apostles' teaching. This teaching was, in reality, the teaching they received from the Lord for His church. Paul did this by personal visits, by sending a member of his missionary team to visit them, and by writing them letters. So, in reality, all of these letters were tools for establishing the churches to whom they were written, or to Paul's key leaders (Timothy and Titus) in how to establish the churches they were sent to minister amongst.



Why did Paul write this letter to the church at Philippi? What was he trying to strengthen in them? What was he seeing in them that motivated this letter?

He gives us many clues about his assessment of the Philippians, his concerns for them, as well as his appraisal of their progress. In the beginning of the letter he praises them because they had participated with him in the progress of the gospel from the day of their birth as a church until the present (1:1–11). He praises them for their continued participation with him in sending Epaphroditus to assist him in his ministry (2:25–30) and in sending him an abundant financial gift to help support him in the ministry (4:10–20). He also addresses an emerging problem: a potential breakdown in their one-mindedness as a church, centering on the conflict between Euodia and Syntyche (4:1–3). He challenges them to continue to be of one mind in their striving together with him in the progress of the gospel (1:27–30), which requires a lot of humility. That kind of humility, he points out, is exemplified in the models of Jesus, Paul, Timothy, and Epaphroditus (2:1–30). And finally, he challenges them to not be distracted in any way from their focus on Christ and His call on their lives (3:1–21).



To encourage the Philippians to continue their commitment to spreading the gospel, that they, following examples of Christ, Paul, Timothy and Epaphroditus, might be humble, self-giving, keeping unity, and living a joyous Christian life.

- by reminding the Philippians of their participation with him (Paul) in the progress of the gospel from their very birth as a church, expressing confidence in God's continued work in their lives, and praying for them to deepen even more in their commitment and understanding of their new faith. (1:1–11)
- by explaining how his own suffering in prison contributed to the progress of the gospel, emboldening others to share their faith and cultivating in him a single- minded focus to live for Christ. (1:12–26)
- by challenging them to strive together with one mind for the progress of the gospel, putting aside all personal rights and following the selfless attitude of Christ, who gave up all His rights on the cross—an attitude which Paul, Timothy, and Epaphroditus modeled as well. (1:27–2:30)
- by sharing his own example more fully, describing his journey, which led him to give up all things in which he might boast and replace them with a single-minded desire to become like Christ and achieve all of His purposes for his life. (3:1–21)
- by exhorting them to stand firm in the gospel, warning them to deal with all the little things that could eat away at their oneminded commitment to the progress of the gospel, such as internal bickering, impatience with each other, and everyday anxieties, and replace them with the habit of Christ-like thoughts and reflections. (4:1–9)
- by praising them for their generous financial contribution to him toward the progress of the gospel, reminding them of the future interest they will receive on their investment and giving them a final greeting. (4:10-23)

## 作业(在礼拜六6/17晚前交)

- 继续读腓立比书多遍
- 完成给全书分段,每段大意,特别注意与
  "作者原意/目的"的连接关系
- 仔细理解第一大段(1:1-11)和第二大段
  (1:12-26)的内容。总结这两段的主题大意。
  (注意与"作者原意/目的"的连接。)
- 考虑如何在我们生活中的应用