Work Out Your Own Salvation

Philippians 2:12-18

1

Context – Philippians 2

* Unity – Verses 1-2
* Attitude – Verses 3-4
* Example of Christ – Verses 5-11

2

Context – Philippians 2

* *Philippians 2:12 "So then, my beloved, even as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, <u>work out your own salvation with fear and trembling</u>" ASV*

3

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<u>Two Kinds Of Obedience</u>:
 "In my presence."
 "In my absence."

➤ Obedience must be to please God! Colossians 3:22; Ephesians 6:6; Galatians 1:10

4

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<u>Man works</u>. *"Work out your own …"*
* *"What must we do?"*
  * *"Save yourselves …" Acts 2:40*
  * *"Go into the city …" Acts 22:10*
  * *"Believe on the Lord Jesus …" Acts 16:31*
  * *"For if ye do these things …" 2 Peter 1:10*

5

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<u>Man Works</u> … *"With fear and trembling."*
 1 Corinthians 2:3; 2 Corinthians 7:15; Ephesians 6:5
* Fear of displeasing God. Isaiah 66:1-2; Matthew 10:28
* Respect & awe of God. cf. Luke 7:16

6

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<u>God Works</u> … *"For it is God who worketh in you …"*

☀ He began a good work. Philippians 1:6
- Beginning of the church in Philippi. Acts 16:14-15
- Provides life to the dead. Ephesians 1:5; Romans 6:3-4; Acts 16:32

When one with reverence & awe obeys, God works in him.

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Work Out Your Own Salvation

<u>God Works</u> … *"For it is God who worketh in you …"*

☀ Examples:
- Fall of Jericho. Joshua 6:2
- Naaman. 2 Kings 5
- Blind man. John 9
- Forgiveness. Luke 23:34; cf. Acts 2:40

8

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"without murmurings and questionings."

☀ Downfall of Israel. 1 Corinthians 10:11-12
- Numbers 14:1ff, 29 Would not go in.
- Numbers 16:41ff Rebellion of Korah.
- Numbers 21:6ff Fiery serpents.

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Work Out Your Own Salvation
"that ye may become …"

☀ <u>Blameless</u>: "Deserving no censure … free from fault or defect" (Thayer) cf. Luke 1:6
☀ <u>Harmless</u>: Pure, untainted, free from guile, innocent. "That which is in its original state … moral innocence." (TDNT Kettel) cf. Matthew 10:16; Romans 16:19
☀ <u>Without blemish</u>: free from fault … as the blood of Christ. cf. 1 Peter 1:18-19; Ephesians 1:4; 5:27

10

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"in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation."

☀ Must be separate from the world. 2 Corinthians 6:14-18; Romans 12:1-2
☀ Cannot "isolate" ourselves from the world. cf. John 17:15,18; 1 Corinthians 5:9-11
- Elijah. 1 Kings 19
- Jeremiah. Jeremiah 9:2

11

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"among whom ye are seen as lights in the world."

☀ Value of light is "SEEN."
☀ From the beginning. Genesis 1:1-3
☀ Dispels darkness. cf. Matthew 5:14-15
☀ In Jesus. John 1:4; 8:12; 9:5; 12:46
☀ You are children of light! Ephesians 5:8; 1 Peter 4:3-4

12

Work Out Your Own Salvation

"Holding forth (holding fast) the word of life."

- It is for Christians to hold it out, to hold on to it. cf. Titus 2:10
- The embodiment of the word in the life of the Christian … the character being formed and the practiced. cf. Galatians 2:20
- God be glorified. Matthew 5:13-16

13

Work Out Your Own Salvation

- *"Make full my joy …"* Philippians 2:2
- *"I joy and rejoice with you all …"* Philippians 2:17-18

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