

PHILIPPIANS Lesson 52

Chapter 4, verses 20-23: Greetings and Salutations

24 April 2023

Vs 20 The deity of either Christ or the Holy Spirit is evident in the words “**God and our Father.**” (1 Jn 5:7).
“...**be glory for ever and ever.**” We find many reasons in this epistle to want to give God glory.
“...**Amen.**” God’s saints should always voice their agreement to the truth whenever it is proclaimed.

Vs 21 “²¹ **Salute every saint in Christ Jesus.**” Salutations come in various forms. It can be a kiss (Rom 16:16; 1 Cor 16:20; 2 Cor 13:12; 1 Thess 5:26), but it must be a holy kiss, not sensual. There are ways to greet the saints that show our respect, joy, and gladness for their fellowship in the Lord.

- Kind gestures, handshake with a smile, kind and respectful words, acknowledgement of their service to the Lord, etc.

“**The brethren which are with me greet you.**” These greetings are from afar. The brethren with Paul were not with the brethren in Philippi, but they were all working together for Jesus Christ.

Vs 22 “²² **All the saints salute you...**” This shows that there were no divisions among the early believers.

“...**chiefly they that are of Caesar's household.**” This reveals that God used Paul to lead some members of Caesar’s household to Salvation in Jesus Christ.

- Paul did not simply lie down and give up because of his bad circumstances. He continued to serve the Lord to the end. The result was that souls were saved in “*unreachable*” places.
 - The Lord is not willing that any should perish (2 Pet 3:9). This includes the rich and famous. He found a way for a missionary to get into Caesar’s house.
- **WHY ARE THE SAINTS IN CAESAR’S HOUSEHOLD NOT NAMED?**
 - The Holy Spirit doesn’t need celebrity Christians.
 - Their salvation is not more important than anybody else’s.
 - They seldom stop their sinful activities long enough to learn the bible and do something for the Lord or the Lord’s people.
 - Publicizing their names might get them killed.
 - Paul was in prison on death row for preaching Jesus. Anyone who was converted by him would be in danger of the same treatment.
 - There are missionaries today who serve the Lord in countries where they could be in danger if they were exposed. We respect their need to work secretly within that kind of community.

Vs 23 “²³ **The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.**”
