

2. HE WILL BRING IT TO COMPLETION: Philippians 1:6-7

by Brett Baggett on Sunday, June 7th, 2020

Theological Theme: “the certainty of glorification emboldens the Christian to stare down affliction.”

I. THE CERTAINTY OF OUR GLORIFICATION (v.6)

Philippians 1:6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

- Few verses have I quoted more frequently than Philippians 1:6!
- **Q. 42. What benefits do believers receive from Christ at the Resurrection?**
A. At the resurrection, believers become raised up in glory, shall be openly acknowledged and acquitted in the day of judgment, and made perfectly blessed in the full enjoyment of God to all eternity. (Phil. 3:20,21; 1 Cor. 15:42,43; Matt. 10:32; 1 John 3:2; 1 Thess. 4:17)
- **WATSON:** “We are not so sure to rise out of our beds tomorrow than to rise out of our graves!”
- **God can more easily raise a body out of the grave than we can wake a man out of sleep. (Watson)**
- **The finisher will finish you! The Completer will complete you! The perfecter will perfect you!**
- **Q.** Has he begun a good work in you? Have you been born again? Do you now trust Jesus and love the Lord Jesus Christ?
- **Jesus said in Luke 9:62,** “No one who puts his hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”
- **Jesus has put His hand to the plow to justify you, sanctify you, and glorify you. He will not look back! He is fit for the kingdom of God and makes us fit as well!**
- **Again, Jesus said in Luke 14:28-30,** “For which of you, desiring to build a tower, does not first sit down and count the cost, whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish.’”
- **Jesus sat down and counted the cost, whether he has enough to complete you.** If He has laid a foundation in dying and rising for you & bringing you to faith in Him, He is not only able to finish but unable to stop His good work in you!
- **Do you think Jesus would allow Himself to be mocked by losing one of His sheep? He will not.** The whole universe could sooner disintegrate than Jesus fail to bring a saint all the way to completion. **(ROM8:29=goldenChain)**
- **Q.** How do I know I will persevere in the faith? How do I know that, since God has justified me and is sanctifying me, one day I will be glorified—brought to completion? **A.** Not because of me, but solely because of “He.” He will bring me to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. **Q.** Does that sound confident? **A.** It is!
- **The certainty of our glorification leads to the rightness of our confidence.**

II. THE RIGHTNESS OF CONFIDENCE (v.7a)

1:7a “It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace.”

- **The certainty of our glorification leads to the rightness of our confidence which leads to the strength to face affliction.**

III. THE STRENGTH TO FACE AFFLICTION (7b)

1:7b “...both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel.” GRACE = imprisonment?

Sure = Peitho (68x)

- **MEANING:** confident, persuaded, convinced, positive, assured.
- **CF:** Acts 17:4 And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women.

Began = Enarchomai (x2)

- **MEANING:** has to do with the beginning of a governing or ruling.
- **CF:** Galatians 3:3 “Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?”

Completion = Epiteleio (10x)

- **MEANING:** perfection, accomplishment, execution, finished.
- **CF: VERB = Galatians 3:3** “Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?” **NOUN = Hebrews 12:1** “[Look] to Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross despising its shame.”

The Day of Jesus Christ = Diakonos (29x)

- **MEANING:** The second coming of Jesus, when He will perfect those who belong to Him and punish those who remain in their sins.
- **CF: Phil. 2:16; 1 Thessalonians 5:2** “For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, ‘There is peace and security,’ then sudden destruction will come upon them...”

Partakers = Sygkoinōnos (6x)

- **MEANING:** “participant with others; joint partner.”
- **CF: Romans 11:17** “...you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree...”
- **1 Corinthians 9:22-23** “To the weak I became weak, that I might win the weak. I have become all things to all people, that by all means I might save some. I do it all for the sake of the gospel, that I may share with them in its blessings.”

Defense = Apologia (x)

Confirmation = Bebaiōsis (x)

- **MEANING:** “verification, authentication.”
- **CF: Hebrews 6:16** “For people swear by something greater than themselves, and in all their disputes an oath is final for confirmation.”