My Kingdom vs. Thy Kingdom

Confident in God Philippians 1:6

"...being confident of this, that He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Jesus Christ."

Philippians 1:6 NIV

God has initiated a good, personal, and persistent work in us.

"From" and "To"

From Heaven to Earth (Matthew 6)
From Heaven to Our Inner Being (Ephesians 3)
From Paul & Timothy to the Saints in Philippi (Philippians 1:1)
From God to Us (Philippians 1:6)

"From Paul and Timothy, servants (slaves) of Christ Jesus — To all the Saints (God's people in Union with Christ) in Philippi..."

Philippians 1:1 GNT

3 Observations to Increase Our Confidence:

- 1. God's good work is not dependent upon perfect people or a perfect community with perfect situations.
- 2. Our confidence is based upon God, His gospel, and His grace.
- 3. Paul's confidence was more than confidence (persuasion, belief, surrender).

Our confidence in God should lead to growth and maturity.

- Don't think American history slaves.
- In NT terms, every Christian is a slave of Jesus, beginning with the leadership.
- A slave is a person who surrenders themself to the will of another.

- Our ability to be and do what God has called us to is related to voluntarily living as bond slaves. (Hampton Keathley)
- Slaves OF Christ, not sin or self. (Romans 3-6, Galatians)

- Slaves had no will, life, or purpose of their own.
- A different Greek word is used when referring to someone taken as a prisoner and sold into slavery.

The yielded will is the empowered position.

- As a slave of Jesus, Jesus is:
 - responsible for the slave's needs.
 - responsible for the slave's duties.
 - responsible for the slave's supplies.

- The phrase "all the saints" removes man made lines of distinction, caste, class, or rank.
- A saint is one who is "holy, set apart, and consecrated" for a purpose, from the world, sin, corrupt flesh, and the devil.

- A saint is devoted to the service of Jesus.
- In NT terms, every Christian is a saint.
- W.E. Vine describes saint as "godlikeness".
- Our "saintliness" is based upon our position IN Christ.

The "you" addressed in Philippians 1:6 is a slave (who we are) and a saint (how we live our who).

Ways to Apply This Message:

- 1. Confidently (and with a smile) declare the truth of who you are.
- 2. Identify your "from" sources and make sure they are healthy.
- 3. Move towards a yielded heart and desire.
- 4. Repent of "unsaintly" mindsets and lies.
- 5. Imagine what a saint's heart and lifestyle looks like and then go be that and do that in the grace of God.