1Thess #78

Do all things without complaining or arguments

We will open today in Philippians chapter two RF.

/As we close out this study on the doctrine of the RFHC several principles become abundantly clear;

The CA is called into not only a royal status for all of eternity, but a pivot toward that royalty and the etiquette of royalty right now in the temporal. It does not begin in the heavenly, it began at salvation! \

/Divine integrity, honor and the application of the RFHC are ingrained by BD not by our family gene pool. Establishment principles affiliated with the 4 Divine Institutions will be foundational tools that enable accurate application of the RFHC. All of this is a learning process and spiritual journey deeper into our relationship with Christ. The weak Bel will find frustration in this application because they have not prepared and stayed the course.\

As we noted - The way David and Jonathan handled the wickedness of King Saul showed incredible honor and integrity from both men.

That is what really puts the Bel to the test – the pressure of unjust treatment, the verbal and physical attacks from bitter, arrogant people.

The RFHC is not something you can take off and put on at any given moment. It becomes a lifestyle and part of your norms and standards.

Now in Philippians chapter two, let us open with some historic commentary.

Philippi was located about a 100 miles away from Thessalonica. The city of Philippi had a strong Greek culture, yet it was predominantly dedicated to retired military families.

The Romans had re-established this city for the purpose of taking its retired military personnel and putting them there, and giving them rewards.

At this historic point, Romans had a system whereby any Roman soldier who won a decoration was given a certain amount of money and, at the time of his retirement, a certain amount of land.

They were retired in very high regard and in grand style. So, it should be clear that the basic group of people in the Philippian church were retired military families, most of the older men had served with honor. They also had some Jews and some Greeks, but at the time this was written around 60-61 AD, there was a large population of retired Roman soldiers living there.

It was not a large city, but very orderly and pristine. It was original founded by King Philip of Macedonia, father of Alexander the Great.

The Apostle Paul set the foundation for this group of Bels on his 2nd missionary journey and it is believed to be the first group of Bels established as a church in Europe, under the Apostle Paul.

Epaphroditus became the pastor there under the authority of Paul. That church never really received face to face teaching from Paul and he used men like Epaphroditus to read his letters and teachings.

This among a handful of other early churches were run by the Apostle Paul with very little face to face teaching.

Phil 2:1 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,

All of this was written in a Greek present tense – **IF** and it is true!

The Apostle Paul is telling them something they know to be true.

/[Phl 2:2](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/2/s_1105002) make my joy complete by **being of the same mind**, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, **intent on one purpose.**

These Bels having a strong majority of military men meant that the Apostle Paul knew, they had the discipline to be serious students and positive Bels without face-to-face teaching.\

He knew they understood unity and how being of the same mind and same intent will bring forth powerful results.

Division in the ranks brings confusion and eventually weakness.

This lifestyle and norms and standards of the RFHC would come quickly to a congregation like this.

In fact, the Apostle Paul uses a command form with the imperative mood.

/Phil 2:2 - *intent (phroneō) on one purpose (phroneō).*

Understanding that leads to wisdom, a harmonious striving for the same view or perspective. Greek present tense – habitual, lifestyle of forward movement in THINKING! \

FRON-AYO, comes from a Greek root word for – understanding.

This is pointing to your process of obtaining knowledge and growing in knowledge that will become wisdom.

Doing so with a heart of unity. BD becoming a number one priority for that congregation. That is the unity – not personalities and feelings – BD!

/[Phl 2:3](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/3/s_1105003) Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but **with humility** (*tapeinophrosynē*) **consider one another** as more important than yourselves;

At the heart of the RFHC is a calling for true humility. Meaning a full understanding of who you are in Christ.\

TO-PINE-OT-FRON-SUE-A, means how you think - it means the humility in your mind, part of this is taking from that same root word for understanding.

The RFHC does not mean you are best friends with every BEL. It means you have unity of mind in relation to truth.

The Apostle Paul is teaching the concept of accepting who you are in CHRIST.

[Phl 2:4](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/4/s_1105004) do not *merely* look out for your own personal *interests,* but also for the *interests* of others.

Again, we see the Apostle Paul stressing this as an ongoing attitude – present tense – keep on being a Bel with true humility who seeks to be an asset to others.

/[Phl 2:5](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/5/s_1105005) Have this attitude in yourselves which **was also in Christ Jesus**,

The protocol plan of God for the human race was put on display within the humanity of Jesus Christ – HE is the only role model! \

Jump down a few verses as we continue the lesson on the RFHC that the Apostle Paul was weaving into this message.

Every Bel is called to be unique within who God made them to be. Yet in that uniqueness, we have to become who we are in CHRIST, not who we are in the world’s viewpoint or in our OSN.

REPEAT

/Phil 2:12 So then, my beloved, **just as you have always obeyed**, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, **work out your own salvation with fear and trembling**;

To remain obedient and continue the journey after salvation to completion. Eternal security is not the issue – spiritual growth, blessings, crowns and rewards are in view. \

You can never lose your salvation – the key term is a Greek word for *work out* (KART-ER-GOD-ZOMY) *katergazomai.*

This term is used for a work in progress that is heading toward completion.

The implication in how this is written, is that it will be done to its full completion or reach its final goal.

The work was already started – eternal security along with the other 40 grace gifts are never removed – it is up to each BEL to walk within those gifts.

This also points to the doctrine of privacy – we each are called into our own walk with God.

No other Bel is your judge and jury and you have no business putting your nose in their spiritual growth either.

REPEAT

After the Apostle Paul established this church he had to rely upon long distance teaching, which has become much easier over the years with modern day technologies.

He knew this group of Bels would maintain a high level of doctrinal intake because the majority had great discipline and focus from their military background.

[Phl 2:13](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/13/s_1105013) for it is God who is at work in you, both to desire and to work for *His* good pleasure.

God has accomplished the work from eternity past, we simply use our free will in time to walk in the direction God has laid out so we can grow up and gain SM.

Everything was given to the human race through the person and work of TLJC. Eternal security is guaranteed at salvation – what we move toward in our journey is maturity, what we are completing is our own spiritual level of growth.

God will not force you to grow up spiritually. God invites us to walk along with HIM.

/[Phl 2:14](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/14/s_1105014) Do all things **without complaining or arguments**;

All Bels are called to walk with God by means of the HS and the WORD, in doing this we avoid strife and bitterness toward others.\

The RFHC is opposed to the bitter spirit of negativity and strife.

Because the RFHC functions from a place of pure BD and walking in the New Nature.

[Phl 2:15](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/15/s_1105015) so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent, children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

One of the many things Bels are called to be is a light to a dark world.

A spiritual light that is illuminated by CHRIST in us…therefore the RFHC is another form of illumination that we give off to others.

[Phl 2:16](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/16/s_1105016) holding firmly the word of life, so that on the day of Christ I can take pride because I did not run in vain nor labor in vain.

BD – the mind of CHRIST is life.

The Apostle Paul like any good pastor or church leader, wants to hear our LORD say - well done, thou good and faithful servant… in relation to their ministry.

All Bels should desire this when they are finally face to face with TLJC.

[Phl 2:17](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/17/s_1105017) But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all.

/[Phl 2:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/phl/2/18/s_1105018) You too, *I urge you,* **rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.**

The RFHC demands that we share in victory and blessings with one another. Just as we share in pain & sorrow with the Royal Family.\

Jump over to Colossians chapter one as we get ready to close shortly.

There are some definitive earmarks of the mature Bel applying the RFHC and a weak Bel attempting to apply the RFHC.

/The mature Bel knows when and how to assist or empathize with another Bel.

The weak Bel will become a busybody in the life of others.

The mature Bel will accept a Bel struggling with their OSN and personal failures.

The weak Bel either becomes insulted and judgmental, or ignites the sins of the tongue against a Bel caught in transgressions.\

When you become aware another Bel is struggling or even just having a bad day, you do not immediately switch into subjectivity and anger.

The weak Bel is often stuck in subjectivity and hypersensitivity so they fail at this test of applying the RFHC.

/The mature Bel will not compromise BD and who they are to appease another Bel living in sin.

The weak Bel is usually a people pleaser who will follow others into sin, or legalistic Bel who condemns both publicly and privately the sins and failure of others.\

The Apostle Paul makes a great statement in relation to applying the RFHC in Colossians chapter one.

/Col 1:9 For this reason we also, since the day we heard *about it,* **have not ceased praying for you** and asking that you may be **filled with the knowledge** of His will in all **spiritual wisdom** and **understanding**,

The mature Bel knows the RFHC calls for consistent prayer and concern for the growth of other Bels.\

[Col 1:10](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/col/1/10/s_1108010) so that you will walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, to please *Him* in all respects, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;

You can never bear fruit of the Spirit from your flesh. Fruit of the Spirit comes from BD resident in the soul.

You have to increase in the right knowledge.

Every Bel should be praying and concerned for other Bels in the realm of spiritual growth. CONCERNED, not controlling the life of another BEL!!

There is a big difference between caring and concern for others and trying to control or invade the life of another Bel.

/[Col 1:11](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/col/1/11/s_1108011) strengthened with all power, according to His glorious might, for the **attaining of all perseverance and patience; joyously**

The Bel heading into maturity has these visible attributes in their walk.\

[Col 1:12](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/col/1/12/s_1108012) giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified us to share in the inheritance of the saints in light.

Now jump over to John chapter 15 and this will put a good cap on this series of the RFHC.

The roots within your soul need to be growing from your knowledge of BD and that knowledge brings wisdom and Godly love into your life.

As I mentioned before your soul structure can be like fertile soil, for good or bad thinking. Or your soul can have soil that is dried up and only weeds will grow.

This is a command from TLJC-

/Jhn 15:17 “This **I command you**, that you **love**(*agapaō*) **one another**.

Impersonal, unconditional love is gained through BD and the consistent lifestyle of the New Nature in control. It is a love powered by accurate thoughts related to the mind of CHRIST.\

Disciples’ of TLJC should have this relation to the world that HE was teaching before HE went to the Cross.

[Jhn 15:18](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/15/18/s_1012018) “If the world hates you, you know that it has hated Me before *it hated* you.

/[Jhn 15:19](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/15/19/s_1012019) “**If you were of the world, the world would love *you as* its own**; but because **you are not of the world**, but I chose you out of the world, because of this **the world hates you**.

The SM Bel knows they are in the world under Royal commissions yet they are not OF the world. They are not striving to fit into this lost and dying world.\

The SM Bel has a heart to help save the world not become part of it!

/[Jhn 15:20](https://www.blueletterbible.org/nasb20/jhn/15/20/s_1012020) “Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A slave is not greater than his master.’ **If they persecuted Me, they will persecute you** as well; if they followed My word, they will follow yours also.

The SM Bel realizes spiritual warfare is real and does not fall into shock and awe every time a conflict or stumbling block arises.\

The RFHC calls for calm assurance and a relaxed mental attitude.