

## Observations from Philippians 2:14-18

1. (v. 14) Paul starts off this verse with an all-encompassing command, “do everything.”
2. (v.14) “Grumbling” and “complaining,” are objects of the preposition, “without,” which is the manner in which Paul says to do everything.
3. (v. 14-16) These three verses are all a part of the same original sentence and give argument to why you should not grumble and complain.
4. (v. 15) “So that” begins Paul’s reasons for saying the Philippians should not grumble or complain.
5. (v. 15) Paul tells the Philippians whom they belong to by saying that “you” (the Church at Philippi) are “children of God.”
6. (v. 15) “Blameless,” “pure,” and without “blemish” are adjectives modifying “you.”
7. (v. 15) Paul is reminding the Philippians whom they belong to by calling them “children of God.”
8. (v. 15) The ESV says “in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom,” where “whom” is ambiguous, so it means anyone.
9. (v. 15) “As lights in the world” (NET), or “like stars in the universe” (NIV), expounds upon how obvious Christians stand out in the culture, and how they need to be aware of this, setting a moral standard.
10. (v. 16) “By” introduces *how* the children of God can shine as lights in the world.
11. (v. 16) “Word of life” is a reference to the message of Christ, which Paul says is essential to you living a blameless and pure life.
12. (v. 16) Paul is always looking forward to the day of Christ, when Christ shall return and all pain and suffering is done away with; all pain and labor is redeemed.
13. (v. 16) “A reason to boast” is Paul looking at the contrast between himself (a child of God) and what is going on around him (the darkness of the world) and being able to rejoice in it.

14. (v. 17) The Message makes this passage much more vivid saying, “even if I am executed here and now, I’ll rejoice in being an element in the offering of your faith that you make on Christ’s altar, a part of your rejoicing.” That is to say, Paul is happy that in his potential death, he can help the faith of others expound.

15. (v. 17) Paul wants the Philippians to see what lengths he has gone to in order to be used for God.

16. (v. 17) He is rejoicing, even in his imprisonment and potential death, not grumbling.

17. (v. 17) Paul says he is glad to “rejoice together with all of you,” implying he has a desire for the Philippians to be rejoicing in his circumstances as well, not to waste time feeling sorry for him.

18. (v. 17) Paul’s contentment and rejoicing is an example he is setting for the Philippians, referring back to his main subject from verse 14.

19. (v. 18) “In the same way” is telling the Church in Philippi to rejoice even in their “crooked and perverse society” mentioned in verse 15.

20. (v. 18) Paul is telling others to accept torture, even to the point of death, for the sake of the “word of life” mentioned in verse 16.