

**“In the beginning, God and in the end, God also”**

***Phil 1:6 Matt 28:16-20 Rms 8:31-39***

***“I saw a sign on a strip of highway once that I would like to have copied on my gravestone. It said, ‘End of construction. Thank you for your patience.’”***

**Ruth Graham**

**The Philippians knew that whatever happened to them, if they remained alive, God had one purpose and that’s to keep moving forward.**

**Paul has complete confidence, not only in his own spiritual advance to the final objective but also in those who are following him closely from the Philippian congregation.**

**The more of the Word you have in your soul, the more confidence or biblical hope you have in life.**

**Hope is absolute security about the future; therefore it acts as a motivator.**

**We believe in Jesus Christ with confident expectation and as a result of learning the Word, we have absolute expectation.**

**Failure is inevitable, while discouragement is optional and failure doesn’t keep us from spiritual growth near as much as discouragement does!**

**Poverty doesn’t glorify God unless it’s providentially ordained to demonstrate the advanced believer’s reliance on God alone.**

**Based on His omniscience and omnipotence, God has taken it upon Himself to make absolutely sure that you will stay alive to complete His work in you.**

**We don’t earn or deserve, nor could we work for anything from God; we are blessed because of who and what Jesus Christ is, not us.**

**With grace-orientation, the believer can rejoice in the fact that someone he doesn’t necessarily like is more blessed than he.**

**God is absolute perfection and anything that comes from Him has to be only good; it cannot be anything else.**

**God’s objective is never stated in terms of works or production.**

**Why? Neither works nor production advances the believer; they are the result of advance but never the means.**

**Conclusion: As long as you are alive, God has a plan for your life.**

**For those who resist and reject biblical truth, there is the provision of grace in the various stages of discipline for rebellion and the influences of the satanic policy of evil.**

**But the good news is that God can reach you for He knows your heart and your needs better than anyone.**

**God is not going to place anything in your path that He doesn’t have the ability to handle! The Christian life is a partnership in which God’s power and sovereignty combine with our responsibility.**

If we accept the teaching of the word of God, we can have power and precedence or if we reject the teaching of the word of God, we will have pride (self-justification, self-deception, self-absorption) and prejudice

(we will be full of mental attitude and verbal sins all our life).

Paul's saying:

“You don't have to be pre-occupied with failing, Philippians, because God started the work in you and He'll finish it, so relax and trust Him.”

The Lord Jesus Christ did *not* leave His disciples with an order and no support:

*“And surely I am with you always,  
to the very end of the age.”*

The God that stood alongside Moses as he challenged evil Pharaoh is the God who walked toward Goliath with young David and He's the same God who promises never to leave you, ever!

**Understanding this truth means we can trust in the Father, abide in the Son and walk by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

Abiding in Christ doesn't mean that we're doing things for Jesus, but allowing Him to do things through us.

The life-giving force of the Vine infuses life to the branches to bear fruit.

So, God works for us in redemption and justification and He works in us in sanctification and He works through us in divine good production of service.

Hold fast to God's Gift in the past, justification; His work in the present, sanctification and His promises for the future glorification.