

Bible reading 1:

Acts 16: 6-40 (p. 1111)

Bible reading 2:

Philippians 1: 1- 30 (p. 1178)



Christmas & New Year
letters

A time of reflection



Something for Paul:

- A visit
- Gifts
- Catch-up stories



Something for Paul:

- A visit
- Gifts
- Catch-up stories

- leading to a 'thank you' letter



Paul's personal memories

10 years ago

(Acts 16)



A 'singing' letter

'JOY'

'REJOICE'



A 'singing' letter

'JOY'

'REJOICE'

joyful prayers in
response to joyful
partnering (1:3,4)

...but not unrealistic

1. Suffering & persecution.
(1:29,30).
2. Worldliness (3:18,19).
3. Quarrelling (2:2 & 4:2).
4. Anxiety (4:6).
5. Changed circumstances
(4:12).

But Paul is genuinely joyful – and hopeful

v. 6 'being confident of this, that he who begun a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus'.

1. 'He who began a good work in you'.

The work of God:
Father, Son & Holy Spirit

1. 'He who began a good work in you'.

The work of God:
Father, Son & Holy Spirit

The bedrock reality for
every Christian

1. 'He who began a good work in you'.

The work of God:
Father, Son & Holy Spirit

The bedrock reality for
every Christian

100% due to God

2. A good work has begun.

God's work is more than
a beginning

There is (must be)
development & growth

...and it shows

**3. God will complete
what he's begun**

Because what God starts
he finishes.

**3. God will complete
what he's begun**

Because what God starts
he finishes.

Unlike us!

3. God will complete what he's begun

Because what God starts
he finishes.

Unlike us!

A word to those who are
older

**4. Until the day
of Christ Jesus**

Something beyond our living
and dying

**4. Until the day
of Christ Jesus**

Something beyond our living
and dying

- On that Day the church of
Jesus Christ will be complete

**4. Until the day
of Christ Jesus**

Something beyond our living
and dying

- On that Day the church of
Jesus Christ will be complete
- On that Day every Christian
will receive a new body

4. **Until the day of Christ Jesus**

Something beyond our living and dying

- On that Day the church of Jesus Christ will be complete
- On that Day every Christian will receive a new body
- On that Day 'every knee shall bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord'

773 A debtor to mercy alone

788 How good is the God we adore