

Further Study:

PHILIPPIANS by Ralph Martin is a helpful commentary in the Tyndale series. Martin has also written a slightly more advanced and up-to-date commentary on Philippians in the New Century Bible series. PHILIPPIANS by James M. Boice is a good homiletical commentary..a collection of careful sermons. PHILIPPIANS AND PHILEMON by Jack J. Mueller is good for the pastor or advanced lay student of Scripture.

b. Extended notes:

(1) Chapter summaries

1. Thanksgiving and prayer for Philippians, God has used the imprisonment to further the Gospel..to live is Christ.
2. Have Christ's humility; further plans
3. Our righteousness is only in Christ. Having it we press on in the Christian life.
4. Proper attitude, Thanksgiving, closing

(2) The Christ life

Philippians draws a beautiful picture of the "Christ life"..the life that believers live in Jesus. The picture in chapter 1 is that He is our life, in chapter two he is the object of it, in chapter 3 he is the subject, and in chapter 4 he is the power. All of those need more development but the letter at hand is a powerful messenger of those things. With this there is great stress placed on the government and sovereignty of God and our commitment to him.

In this connexion is it interesting to see how the eschatology ideals are utilized at the end of chapter 3.

(3) Some things of special notes:

- the need matters of chapter 4
- the dogs in chapter 3
- the challenge to stand for the Gospel no matter what else might be true.
- the willingness to rejoice in the advance of truth even if one's own position is hectic.

c. Summary: A favorite book of many with much emphasis on the solid character of the life of a believer in the will of God.