

Phil. 1:9-11

- I. I am praying this – (9a)
- II. What Paul is praying and why (9b-11)
 - A. That your love may abound more and more with knowledge and all discernment (9b)
 - Abound has the implication of being more than what is expected
 - Discernment = the ability to perceive clearly and therefore to understand the real nature of something as opposed to its appearance or propaganda
 - B. The result is that you will discern/approve what matters most and be blameless and pure (10-11)
 - 1. That you may discern and approve what matters most (10a)
 - Discern (different word than v. 9) = drawing a conclusion based on testing
 - With the result that it has passed the test and therefore is approved by testing
 - What matters most = what is superior, having more worth
 - Not always an issue of good vs. bad, but sometimes good vs. best
 - Don't settle for second best, hold out for the best
 - 2. So that you may be pure and blameless, filled with the fruit of righteousness (10b-11)
 - a So that you may be pure, filled with righteousness (10b-11a)
 - 1) So that you may be pure and blameless for the day of Christ (10b)
 - Pure has the connotation of sincere, without guile, hypocrisy or pretense
 - Blameless = being without fault b/c not giving any ground for offense
 - 2) By being filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus (11a)
 - b Purpose: to the glory and praise of God. (11b)