

Book:	<i>Philippians</i>
Series:	<i>Rejoice in the Lord!</i>
Lesson 9:	<i>The Sanctification Stakes</i>
Text:	Philippians 2:14-18
Date:	November 10, 2013
Next Lesson:	Philippians 2:19-30

INTRODUCTION

What's at stake when a local church community fails to "work out salvation" with fear and trembling? What's at stake when they fail to apply "gospel vigilance"—"continuous, sustained, strenuous effort"—in achieving unity through humble ministry as commanded in Philippians 1:27-2:4? In Philippians 2:14-18, Paul simply underlines our need to "work out our own salvation with fear and trembling," by showing us, on a very practical level, what is at stake when we fail to do so. We will consider five blessings that are at stake in our sanctification.

IN OUR MIDST (v. 14)

"Grumbling" —

- Exodus 17:2-3 —
- Psalm 106:24-25 —
- Lamentations 3:39 —
- Matthew 20:10-14 —
- Luke 5:30 —

- John 6:41, 43, 61 (7:12) —
- Acts 6:1 —
- 1 Peter 4:9 —

“Disputing” —

- Luke 9:46 (cf. Proverbs 13:10) —
- Romans 14:1 —
- 1 Timothy 2:9 —

_____ **FROM OUR SOCIETY (v. 15a)**

1. *We are _____ of God and should be blameless and innocent.*
2. *Our _____ is the enemy of God and is crooked and perverse.*

_____ **TO THE WORLD (vv. 15b-16a)**

1. *Our witness is likened to _____ shining.*
2. *Our witness is _____ by gospel-commitment.*

_____ **FOR OUR MENTORS (v. 16b)**

_____ **AMONG MINISTRY PARTNERS (vv. 17-18)**

CONCLUSION

Considering all that is at stake in our sanctification—harmony in our midst, distinctiveness from our society, witness to our world, fruitfulness for our mentors, and joy among ministry partners—let us “work out [our] own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in [us], both to will and to work for His good pleasure.”