

Paul's Wishes for You

by Wayne Goff

Well, we wish everybody a “happy new year.” But look at the list of things the apostle Paul “wished” for brethren then and now!

- ✓ **Stand fast in the Lord**, [Philippians 4:1](#)
- ✓ **An established, mutual faith**, [Romans 1:11-12](#)
- ✓ **Perfect, complete, peaceful unity**, [1 Corinthians 1:10](#)
- ✓ **Comfort in all your tribulations**, [2 Corinthians 1:3-4](#)
- ✓ **Hope that you are partakers of the consolation**, [2 Corinthians 1:7](#)
- ✓ **Grace and peace**, [Galatians 1:3](#)
- ✓ **Your spiritual eyesight may become greater**, [Ephesians 1:18](#)
- ✓ **Understanding of the Scriptures written by Paul and other inspired men**, [Ephesians 3:3-4](#)
- ✓ **Strengthened with might through His spirit in the inner man**, [Ephesians 3:16](#)
- ✓ **Comprehension with all the saints the width, length, depth, and height of the love of Christ**, [Ephesians 3:18-19](#)
- ✓ **Filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding**, [Colossians 1:9](#)
- ✓ **May the Lord make you increase and abound in love to one another and to all**, [1 Thessalonians 3:12](#)
- ✓ **May the God of peace sanctify you completely — in spirit, soul and body**, [1 Thessalonians 5:23](#)
- ✓ **That God would count you worthy of the calling, and fulfill all His good pleasure with power**, [2 Thessalonians 1:11](#)
- ✓ **That the sharing of your faith may become effective by the acknowledgment of every good thing in you in Christ Jesus**, [Philemon 6](#)

Several things stand out in this list of “wishes” by the great apostle Paul. First, everything in his wish list is **spiritual, deeply spiritual in nature!** I’m not even sure if I understand all that he was asking for on behalf of his brethren. But I intend to study this list in the new year, and I hope you do too.

Secondly, if **everything** Paul mentioned were true of you and me, then heaven would be absolutely guaranteed! Standing fast in the Lord, we would not waver. An established, mutual faith would mean that both Paul and us would receive the same reward — eternal life, [2 Tim. 4:8](#).

Thirdly, **perfect unity**, comfort in tribulations, grace and peace, and increased love for the brethren would certainly make for a wonderful relationship with all Christians, especially those with whom we meet regularly!

A **deeper, richer understanding** of the Scriptures that would enrich our spiritual eyesight would also make us so much stronger in the Lord and in the power of His might. There would be far less carnality and sinfulness among us.

Complete sanctification in body, soul and spirit would usher us into eternal life through the blessings of God and Jesus Christ.

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