PHILIPPIANS

Introduction &

Background

1. Geography
   1. The land was fertile
   2. A Gate City
   3. Gold mines
2. History
   1. Beginnings date back to 4th century BCE
   2. Philip II took over in 356 BCE
   3. Came under Roman rule in 168 BCE
   4. The battle of Philippi in 42 BCE
   5. Apostle Paul, Silas and Timothy arrive in 49 CE
3. Political
   1. The Battle of Philippi
      1. Mark Antony and Octavian
      2. Brutus and Cassius
   2. The Roman Empire over the Roman Republic
   3. Roman colony
      1. Veteran retirement village
      2. Military outpost
      3. Special benefits as a colony
         1. Self-government
         2. Freedom from paying taxes
         3. Same rights as those who live in Italy
4. Religious
   1. Syncretistic practices
      1. Emperor worship
      2. Egyptian gods: Isis & Serapis
      3. Small Jewish population
   2. No Christians
5. Themes
   1. Christians first, Romans second
   2. Joy
   3. Christ’s deity
   4. Fellowship