

# Philippians 4:15

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

## Analysis

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**Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only** (Οἴδατε δὲ καὶ ὑμεῖς, Φιλιππήσιοι, ὅτι ἐν ἀρχῇ τοῦ εὐαγγελίου, ὅτε ἐξῆλθον ἀπὸ Μακεδονίας, οὐδεμίᾳ μοι ἐκκλησίᾳ ἐκοινώνησεν εἰς λόγον δόσεως καὶ λήμψεως εἰ μὴ ὑμεῖς μόνοι, Oidate de kai hymēis, Philippēsioi, hoti en archē tou euangeliou, hote exēlthon apo Makedonias, oudemia moi ekklēsia ekoinōnēsen eis logon doseōs kai lēmpseōs ei mē hymēis monoi)—En archē tou euangeliou ("in beginning of the gospel")—Paul's Macedonian mission (Acts 16-17, c. AD 49-50). Oudemia...ekklēsia ekoinōnēsen ("no church shared")—only Philippi partnered. Eis logon doseōs kai lēmpseōs ("in the matter of giving and receiving")—accounting language, commercial partnership. Ei mē hymēis monoi ("except you alone")—exclusive partnership. This verse begins historical review (vv. 15-16) establishing Philippi's unique, long-standing support. Their faithfulness from 'beginning' validates relationship.

## Historical Context

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When Paul left Philippi (Acts 17:1), he went to Thessalonica, Berea, Athens, Corinth. Philippi sent support multiple times (v. 16). Most churches didn't support Paul financially; he often worked tentmaking (Acts 18:3; 1 Cor 9:12-18). Corinth

particularly failed to support him, causing tension (2 Cor 11:7-12). Philippi's consistent generosity distinguished them. Paul's refusal of some churches' support related to avoiding appearance of greed (1 Thess 2:5-9); he accepted Philippian gifts because their motives were pure.

## Related Passages

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**1 John 4:8** — God is love

**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

## Study Questions

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1. Why did Paul accept Philippian support but refuse it from other churches (e.g., Corinth)?
2. What does exclusive, long-standing partnership ('from the beginning') teach about faithful giving?
3. How can churches today embody Philippi's 'giving and receiving' (doseōs kai lēmpseōs) partnership?

## Interlinear Text

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Οἴδατε δὲ καὶ ὑμεῖς Φιλιππήσιοι ὅτι ἐν ἀρχῇ  
know Now also ye Philippians that in the beginning  
G1492 G1161 G2532 G5210 G5374 G3754 G1722 G746

τοῦ εὐαγγελίου ὅτε ἐξῆλθον ἀπὸ Μακεδονίας οὐδεμία  
of the gospel when I departed from Macedonia no  
G3588 G2098 G3753 G1831 G575 G3109 G3762

μοι ἐκκλησία ἐκοινώνησεν εἰς λόγον δόσεως καὶ  
me church communicated with as concerning giving also  
G3427 G1577 G2841 G1519 G3056 G1394 G2532

λήψεως, εἰ μὴ ὑμεῖς μόνοι  
receiving G1487 G3361 ye only  
G3028 G5210 G3441

## Additional Cross-References

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**Philippians 1:5** (Parallel theme): For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;

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