

Philippians 4:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household.

Analysis

All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household (ἀσπάζονται ὑμᾶς πάντες οἱ ἄγιοι, μάλιστα δὲ οἱ ἐκ τῆς Καίσαρος οἰκίας, aspazontai hymas pantes hoi hagioi, malista de hoi ek tēs Kaisaros oikias)—Pantes hoi hagioi ("all the saints")—Roman church sends greetings. Malista de ("especially, chiefly")—highlighting particular group. Hoi ek tēs Kaisaros oikias ("those from Caesar's household")—oikia ("household") includes slaves, freedmen, and staff managing imperial affairs, not necessarily Caesar's family. This fulfills 1:13—Paul's bonds became known throughout Caesar's household, resulting in conversions. Gospel penetrated Rome's power center. This is stunning: Caesar's own staff confess Jesus as Lord, subverting imperial cult.

Historical Context

Caesar's household numbered thousands—slaves and freedmen administering empire from Rome. Inscriptions identify Christians among them (e.g., Claudia, Pudens in Rome). Paul's house arrest gave access to rotating guards and administrative staff, enabling evangelism (1:13). That Caesar's household Christians greet Philippian church shows gospel's social reversal: powerless prisoners evangelize empire's heart; slaves confess true King. This is political subversion: Rome's personnel acknowledge Jesus (not Caesar) as Lord.

Related Passages

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does gospel penetration of 'Caesar's household' teach about God's sovereignty and mission strategy?
2. How do you proclaim Jesus's lordship in contexts where Caesar (state, employer, culture) claims ultimate authority?
3. What 'unlikely' contexts might God be calling you to bear witness within?

Interlinear Text

ἀσπάζονται	ὑμᾶς	πάντες	οἱ	ἅγιοι	μάλιστα	δὲ	οἱ
salute	you	All	G3588	the saints	chiefly	G1161	G3588
G782	G5209	G3956		G40	G3122		
ἐκ	τῆς	Καίσαρος	οἰκίας				
they that are of	G3588	Caesar's	household				
G1537		G2541	G3614				

Additional Cross-References

2 Corinthians 13:13 (Holy): All the saints salute you.

Philippians 1:13 (Parallel theme): So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places;