

The One Thing We Can Be
Confident About in 2021

Philippians 1:6

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. (Philippians 1:6)

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And I am confident (NIV, NASB) of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

I. We can be confident that God has begun
His work of salvation in us.

*The Lord opened her heart to pay attention
to what was said by Paul. (Acts 16:14b)*

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[God] chose us in him before the foundation of the world, (Eph.1:4)

For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Eph.2:8-9)

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For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (Rom.10:13)

He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter replied, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven. (Mt.16:15-17)

II. We can be confident that God is continuing
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“The New Testament affords not a few examples of people who made professions of faith that were spurious [false], evidenced by the fact that they did not endure, they did not persevere.

“For example, at the end of John 2 many people believed in Jesus’ name when they saw the miraculous signs he was doing. “But Jesus would not entrust himself to them” (John 2:24), we are told; he knew that their faith was not genuine.

“A few chapters later, to those who had professed faith, Jesus declared, “If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples” (John 8:31).

Or as Hebrews 3:14 puts it, “We have come to share in Christ if we hold firmly till the end the confidence we had at first.”

“Because God is preserving the [Philippians], Paul is convinced that they will persevere. Paul gives thanks to God because he is entirely confident, as he has watched the Philippians, that God did indeed begin a “good work” in them . . . , and the God who begins a good work finishes it.

- D.A. Carson

God gives us the desire and the ability to do
His will:

*for it is God who works in you, both to will
and to work for his good pleasure. (2:13)*

They supported Paul and his ministry with their prayers and financial support:

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your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. (1:5)

They supported Paul and his ministry with their prayers and financial support:

for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance (1:19).

They supported Paul and his ministry with their prayers and financial support:

I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent (4:18)

They were willing to endure suffering as a part of their calling to follow Christ:

They were willing to endure suffering as a part of their calling to follow Christ:

For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have. (Phil.1:29-30)

III. We can be confident that God will
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