

The Epistle to the Philippians: Joy in Christ

Developed by Home Based Biblical Fellowship www.tbfbf.org
Join us live via Zoom Tuesday mornings 7:30-8:30 am Central
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PHILIPPIANS				
	Joy in Living for Christ <small>Even when we don't get what we want In spite of circumstances Even with conflicts</small>	Joy in Serving Christ in Unity <small>Starts with right attitude Maintained through right theology Encouraged by right models</small>	Joy in Knowing Christ <small>A warning A testimony A goal A command</small>	Joy in Resting in Christ <small>Unity Peace Final predictions</small>
	CHAPTER 1	CHAPTER 2	CHAPTER 3	CHAPTER 4
Christ	... my Life	... my Model	... my Goal	... my Contentment
Spirit	His provision (1:19)	His fellowship (2:1)	His worship (3:3)	His peace (4:7)
Positive Reaction	To difficulty: "I can wait for to know, brethren, that my circum- stances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel." (1:12)	To stress: "Do all things without grumbling or disputing." (2:14)	To the past: "Forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize." (3:13-14)	To the "exchangeable": "Not that I speak from want, for I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am." (4:11)
Tone	Warm, encouraging, affirming			
Key Words	"Rejoice," "Christ," "Next," "Act"			
Uniqueness	No major problem passages. "Joy" is found in each chapter. Not one quotation from the Old Testament. Christ mentioned over forty times. Most positive of all Paul's letters, yet written while he was chained to a Roman guard.			
Theme	By centering our lives around Christ, we can experience true joy.			
Key Verse	1:21			
Christ in Philippians	Jesus is the Son of God from heaven, who humbled Himself by becoming human, who suffered for us, and who was exalted to heaven (2:5-11).			

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Philippians 3:10-11 ¹⁰that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

When we ended last session, we were discussing what this means.

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Philippians 3:12-14 ¹²Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

What has Paul not yet attained?

Why should we not judge our Spiritual maturity?

Why are we to press on to the goal?

What is the importance of the *one thing* Paul does?

4

Philippians 3:15-17 ¹⁵All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶Only let us live up to what we have already attained. ¹⁷Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do.

Is Paul's command to follow his example arrogant?

Who is the "us" in the phrase *us as a model*?

Where do we find these examples?

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Philippians 3:18-21 ¹⁸For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

Why is Paul weeping?

What is an enemy of the cross?

What is the importance of remembering our true citizenship?

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