

Philippians

Find Your Joy in Living Worthy of the Gospel

Observations

- Heart – emotional thermometer of the soul
- Reverence – equal combination of love and fear
- Motivation – inspiration and desperation
- Fear – a learned expression on a continuum
- Fear – the potential loss of something valued
- Fear – a combination of submission and awe

Philippians—Find Your Joy in Living Worthy of the Gospel

Philippians 2:12-18

¹² So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure. ¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing ¹⁵ so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

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¹⁶ holding fast the word of life so that in the day of Christ I will have reason to glory because I did not run in vain nor toil in vain. ¹⁷ But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrifice and service of your faith, I rejoice and share my joy with you all. ¹⁸ You too, I urge you, rejoice in the same way and share your joy with me.

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Presumption – Philippians 2:1-11

History – Acts 16:9-34, Philippians 1:5

Immediate Cause – Acts 21-24

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Presumption – Philippians 2:1-11

- They have unity and humility (Philippians 2:2-3).
- They follow Jesus's attitude (Philippians 2:5).
- They empty themselves (Philippians 2:7).
- They are obedient to death (Philippians 2:8).

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History – Acts 16:9-34, Philippians 1:5

- Macedonian Call (Acts 16:9-10)
- Ministry in Philippi (Acts 16:11-12)
- Conversion of Lydia (Acts 16:13-15)
- Slave-girl Cleansed (Acts 16:16-18)
- Paul Imprisoned (Acts 16:19-24)
- Jailer Converted (Acts 16:25-34)
- Participation in the Gospel (Philippians 1:5)

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Immediate Cause – Acts 21-24

- Paul went to Jerusalem (Acts 21:11-14)
- Paul arrested in the temple (Acts 21:27-31)
- Paul gave his testimony (Acts 21:39)
- Paul readied for torture (Acts 22:24-25)
- Paul brought to council (Acts 22:30)
- Jews plotted to kill Paul (Acts 23:12-15)
- Paul sent to Gov. Felix (Acts 23:31-33)
- Paul kept in custody (Acts 24:26-27)

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Immediate Cause

- What would it be like for the believers in Philippi (or Timothy or others who look up to Paul for leadership) to lose their spiritual mentor?
- What would it be like for Paul who carried concern for the churches and knew he wasn't coming back for a time?

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Immediate Cause

- What would it be like if we at Hillview lost our elders for some reason and in a relatively sudden way?
- What would they write to us if they had some time left and weren't coming back for a time?

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Hebrews 12:1-2 – “Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of faith.”

We are all in the race. It's not a sprint but a marathon. In that race, we need to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus, not on ourselves, our circumstances, our brothers and sisters, or even our ministries but on Him who is the author and perfecter of our faith. In the race, if we don't keep our eyes on Him, it is easy to stray off course!

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¹ Corinthians 15:58 – “Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your toil is not in vain in the Lord.” There are times when we may feel disappointed, discouraged, even depressed. But Paul reminds us it is worth it to not only be steadfast but to abound in His work. Anything we do for His Kingdom, out of thanksgiving and gratitude to Him, will not be in vain. As Jim Elliot rightly said, “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”

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Definitions

- Work – to work fully, perform, accomplish, finish
- Salvation – 3 tenses
- Fear – to be exceedingly afraid, terror, phobia

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Definition – Salvation

- Justification
- Sanctification
- Glorification

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Definition – Salvation

- Justification – to justify someone based on their faith
- Sanctification
- Glorification

Romans 5:1 –

Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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Definition – Salvation

- Justification – to justify someone based on their faith
- Sanctification – to set someone apart for work
- Glorification

2 Timothy 2:21 – He will be a vessel for honor, sanctified, useful to the Master, prepared for every good work.

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Definition – Salvation

- Justification – to justify someone based on their faith
- Sanctification – to set someone apart for work
- Glorification – to share in God's glory

Romans 8:18 – For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us.

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- Philippians 3:12 – I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

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Application

- Are you extremely concerned over how you handle your salvation?
- **Proverbs 9:10; 8:12**

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¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.

Warrant

- A warrant functions as a reason for something.
- In this case, it is a reason for us to lay hold of and work out our salvation.
- Every warrant demands evidence, so is God at work in you?

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Evidence

- **Romans 8:32 – He who did not spare His own Son but delivered Him over for us all, how will He not also with Him freely give us all things?**

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- Are you extremely concerned over how you handle your salvation?
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¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing

Reasons

- Grumbling and disputing is basically an act of pride.
- **James 4:6 – God is opposed to the proud but gives grace to the humble.**

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¹⁴ Do all things without grumbling or disputing

Reasons

- It is a passive stance against God that creates division.
- **Proverbs 6:16, 19 – There are . . . things which the LORD hates . . . one who spreads strife among brothers.**

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¹⁵ so that you will prove yourselves to be blameless and innocent children of God above reproach in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you appear as lights in the world,

Result

- Proof is in the eye of the receiver of information.
- Light is a double edged sword.

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Means

- the manner by which something is accomplished
- 1 Corinthians 15:1-2 – I make known to you the gospel which you received, in which you stand, by which you're saved, if you hold fast to it.

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Result

- When someone gives something or does something you appreciate, does it matter how you show them gratitude?

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Result

- When someone gives something or does something you appreciate, does it matter how you show them gratitude? **John 12:43 – They loved the approval of men rather than the approval of God.**

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Drink Offering

- Paul's drink offering accompanied their main offering of sacrifice and service to God in Jesus.
- This was an act of humility: to put their service as more important than his own.

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Review

- Place more value on another's service than your own.
- Show your gratitude with obedience.
- Do not grumble or dispute.
- Work out your salvation in fear.

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