

Bible Snapshots



Philippians – Rejoice Always

Author – Paul, 61 or 62 A.D. (in prison)

- Derives its name from those at Philippi to whom Paul was writing (1:1). This city was a Roman colony in Macedonia that enjoyed Roman citizenship. Paul founded this church on his second missionary journey (Acts 16). Lydia, a seller of purple, was the first convert. Soon after the Philippian jailer and his family joined her. Most members were Greek and Roman Gentiles. There were very few Jews, evidenced by the lack of a synagogue and no Hebrew names in the list of converts.
- Paul writes them because they are poor (2 Cor. 8:1, 2); in trouble from persecution (1:28-30); quarrelling (2:1-4); and inclined to spiritual pride and jealousies.
- Character of the book – practical Christianity
- Philippians has 4 chapter and 104 verses

Themes

- The book is primarily written to promote joy and service as part of maturing our faith (1:25).
- Teaches that our faith is not shaped by outward circumstance, but by having Christ within.

Key chapters/verse – 2 – Christ our pattern / 2:5

Key phrase / word / thought

- Rejoice in the Lord (4:4) / joy (rejoice) / Joy through service and ministry

Christ In Philippians - God's highly exalted one (2:9); A name above every name (2:9); our strength (4:13)

- I. Introduction (1:1-7)
- II. Christ the Believer's Life – Rejoice in suffering (1:8-30)
- III. Christ the Believer's Ideal – rejoice in service (2)
- IV. Christ the Believer's Object – rejoice despite imperfections (3)
- V. Christ the Believer's Power – rejoice in circumstances (4:1-19)
- VI. Conclusion (4:20-23)

The gospel in Philippians - Fellowship in the Gospel (1:5); confirmation of the Gospel (1:12); furtherance of the Gospel (1:12); defense of the Gospel (1:17); living the Gospel (1:27); faith in the Gospel (1:27); service in the gospel (2:22); laboring in the Gospel (4:3) and spreading the Gospel (4:15)

The Christian's joy – Rejoice always (4:4); rejoice in whatever state we find ourselves (4:10-12); rejoice in prayer (1:4); rejoice in preaching Christ (1:18); rejoice in faith (1:25); rejoice in godly living (2:12); rejoice in the day of Christ (2:16); rejoice in sacrifice and service (2:17, 18); rejoice in Christian fellowship (2:24-30); rejoice in the Lord (3:1; 4:4); rejoice in worship (3:3) rejoice in care of the church (4:10); rejoice in whatever state you find yourself (4:10-12).

Paul's recipe for being Christ-like (3:4-14) – No confidence in the flesh (4-6); gain the excellency of the knowledge of Christ (8); forget the past (4-7, 13); knowing Him, His resurrection and suffering (10); ignoring our own works (9); accepting Christ's righteousness through faith (9); dying to self and conformed to His death (10); living His resurrected life (11); deaf to man's call (4-6); hear God's call (14); leaving the old life behind (13); following the new things of Christ (12); putting aside pride (4-7); serving Christ wholeheartedly (12, 13); neglecting self (8); and attentive to eternal values (14).

How to live the successful Christian life (4:4-13)

Rejoice always (4); forbear others (5; 2:3,4); be ready for Christ's coming (5); be anxious for nothing (6); pray for everything (6); be thankful for everything (6); enjoy God's peace (7); be truthful (8); be honest (8); be just (8); be pure (8); be lovely (8); have a good report (8); have a deep spiritual life (8); praise (8); care for others (10); be content (11, 12); think on and do things (8, 9, 13)

The Cure for worry

Unloading by prayer (6); committing by supplications (6); praising with thanksgiving (6); leaving the burden with God (6); and getting God's peace in return (7).