

“Possessing True JOY”
Philippians: A Book Study (3)
“Joyful...In Spite Of...”
6/8/08

Text: 1:12-26

“¹²I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, ¹³so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. ¹⁴And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

¹⁵Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. ¹⁶The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁷The former proclaim Christ out of rivalry, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. ¹⁸What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

Yes, and I will rejoice, ¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.” (ESV)

Moving into the letter written to the Philippians, Paul is single-minded and is seen pursuing JOY IN SPITE OF.....

1. C _____ – As Long as Christ’s Cause Progresses – v.12-14

These shackles....

A. GAVE PAUL CONTACT WITH THE L _____ . He was chained to a Roman soldier 24/7....

B. GAVE PAUL CONTACT WITH THE O _____ IN CAESAR’S COURT.

C. GAVE PAUL COURAGE THAT HE PASSED ALONG TO THE BELIEVERS.

JOY IN SPITE OF.....

2. C _____ – As Long as Christ’s Name was Proclaimed – v.15-19

JOY IN SPITE OF....

3. C _____ – As Long as the Lord is Glorified – v.19-26