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HOW TO FIND JOY IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE



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President – Chafer Theological Seminary

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Answering Ten Questions 

- 1) Who wrote it? – Paul
- 2) To Whom was it written? – The Believers at Philippi
- 3) Where was it written from? – Rome
- 4) When was it written? – A.D. 62
- 5) What was the book's occasion? – Five contacts
- 6) Who are the opponents? – Four opponents threatening joy
- 7) What is the book's purpose? – To give joy during adversity
- 8) How is it organized (outline)? – Four-part outline
- 9) What is it about? – Joy during adversity
- 10) What makes the book different? – Personal & informal

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Outline


- Ch 1 – God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results
- Ch 2 – Christ's example of servanthood
- Ch 3 – Avoiding legalism
- Ch 4 – Reliance upon Christ's strength for daily life



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Positive Results of Imprisonment
(Phil. 1:12-30)

- Captive audience (Phil. 1:12-13)
- Church's boldness in preaching (Phil. 1:14-18)
- Greater prayer (Phil. 1:19)
- Protection from martyrdom (Phil. 1:20-26)



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- Ch 1 – God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results
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Examples of Humble Service
(Phil. 2)


1. Christ (Phil. 2:5-16)
2. Paul (Phil. 2:17-18)
3. Timothy (Phil. 2:19-24)
4. Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:25-30)



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- Ch 1 – God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results
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Avoid Legalism
(Phil. 3)

- Legalists vs. true believers (Phil. 3:1-3)
- Paul’s transition away from legalism (Phil. 3:4-14)
- Other items to embrace in lieu of legalism (Phil. 3:15-4:3)



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Legalists vs. True Believers
(Phil. 3:1-3)


1. Command to Rejoice (1)
2. Threat Posed by Legalists (2)
3. Characteristics of those walking by the Spirit (3)



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3. Characteristics of those walking by the Spirit
(Phil. 3:3)

1. Genuinely circumcised
2. Spiritual worshippers
3. Glory in Christ
4. Put no confidence in the flesh



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Avoid Legalism
(Phil. 3)

- Legalists vs. true believers (Phil. 3:1-3)
- **Paul's transition away from legalism (Phil. 3:4-14)**
- Other items to embrace in lieu of legalism (Phil. 3:15-4:3)



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Paul's Transition Away From Legalism
(Phil. 3:4-14)

- A transitionary & general statement (Phil. 3:4)
- Eight reasons for Paul's fleshly confidence (Phil. 3:5-6)
- Paul's new spiritual priorities (Phil. 3:7-14)



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Eight Reasons for Paul's Fleshly Confidence
(Phil. 3:5-6)

1. Circumcision
2. Israeli
3. Benjamite
4. Hebrew of Hebrews
5. Pharisee
6. Persecutor of the Church
7. Zeal
8. Blameless



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Paul's New Spiritual Priorities
(Phil. 3:7-14)

1. Rejection of fleshly things (7)
2. Embracing of spiritual things (8-14)
 - A. Knowing Christ (8)
 - B. Christ's righteousness (9)
 - C. Fellowship of His sufferings (10)
 - D. Resurrection (11-12)
 - E. Prize (13-14)



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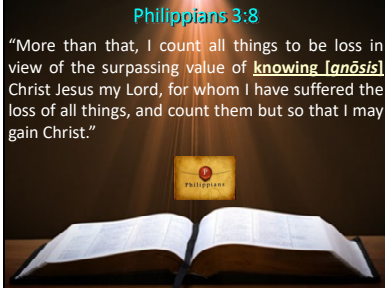
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Philippians 3:8

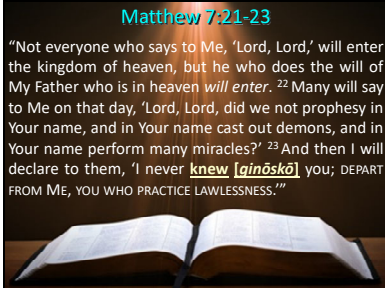
"More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of **knowing [anōsis]** Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but so that I may gain Christ."



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Matthew 7:21-23

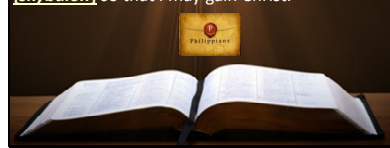
"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.²² Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?'²³ And then I will declare to them, 'I never **knew [ginōskō]** you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.'"



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Philippians 3:8


“More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish [skybalon] so that I may gain Christ.”



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(Phil. 3:7-14)


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Philippians 3:9

“and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith.”



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Eight Reasons for Paul's Fleshly Confidence
(Phil. 3:5-6)


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"Believe" Defined

pisteuō... "to believe," also "to be persuaded of," and hence, "to place confidence in, to trust," signifies, in this sense of the word, reliance upon, not mere credence. It is most frequent in the writings of the apostle John, especially the Gospel. He does not use the noun...Of the writers of the Gospels...uses of the verb...John ninety-nine.

W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White, *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testament Words* (Nashville: Nelson, 1996), 61.

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Lewis Sperry Chafer
 vol. 7, Systematic Theology (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Publications, 1993), 265-66.

"This vital newness of mind is a part of believing, after all, and therefore it may be and is used as a synonym for believing at times (cf. Acts 17:30; 20:21; 26:20; Rom. 2:4; 2Tim. 2:25; 2 Pet. 3:9). Repentance nevertheless cannot be added to believing as a condition of salvation, because upwards of 150 passages of Scripture condition salvation upon believing only (cf. John 3:16; Acts 16:31)."

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Romans 4:4-5



" Now to the one who works, his wage is not credited as a favor, but as what is due. But to the one who does not work, but believes in Him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is credited as righteousness."

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RELIGION SAYS...

Jesus Christ did 90% →
 You must do 10%

This is salvation by **WORKS**.

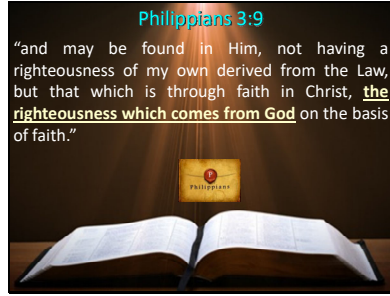
GOD SAYS...

Jesus Christ did 100%

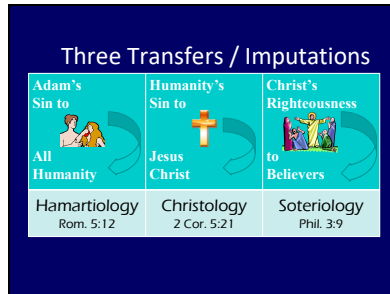
This is salvation by **GOD'S GRACE**.

Chart courtesy of Thomas Stegall


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-
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 - E. Prize (13-14)



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1 Corinthians 15:20-23

²⁰ But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who are asleep. ²¹ For since by a man came death, by a man also came the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, after that those who are Christ's at His coming."



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Three Tenses of Salvation			
Phase	Justification	Sanctification	Glorification
Tense	Past	Present	Future
Saved from sin's:	Penalty	Power	Presence
Scripture	Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5	Philip 2:12	Rom 5:10
Nature	Single	Dual	Single

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 - E. **Prize (13-14)**



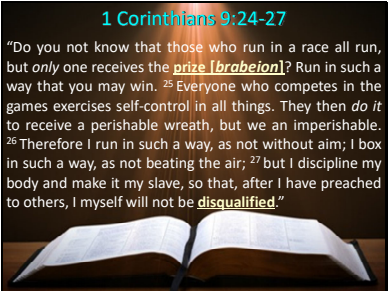
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Philippians 3:14

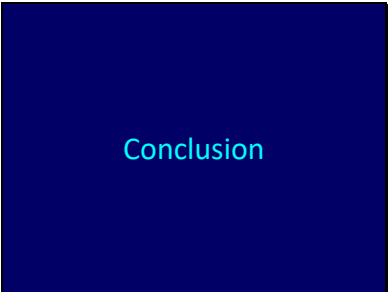
"I press on toward the goal for the **prize** [*brabeion*] of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."



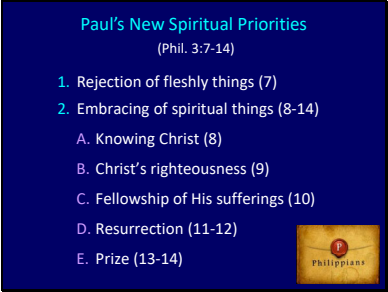
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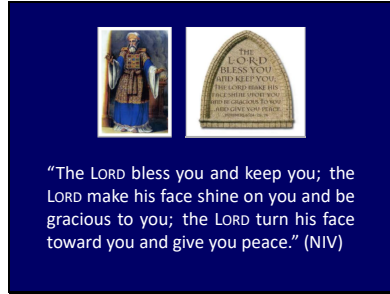


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7

John 10:10- The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I came that they may have life, and have *it* abundantly.

8

Gen. 4:1 (KJV)-And Adam **knew** Eve his wife; and she **conceived**, and bare Cain, and said, I have gotten a man from the LORD.

9

Gen. 3:7-Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loin coverings.

Gen. 3:21-The LORD God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

Rom. 5:12-Therefore, just as through one man sin entered into the world, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men, because all sinned—

2 Cor. 5:21-He made Him who knew no sin *to be* sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

10

John 15:20-Remember the word that I said to you, 'A slave is not greater than his master.' If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you; if they kept My word, they will keep yours also.

Rom. 6:3-6-³ Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? ⁴ Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. ⁵ For if we have become united with *Him* in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be *in the likeness* of His resurrection, ⁶ knowing this, that our old self was crucified with *Him*, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin.

Gal. 2:20-I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the *life* which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me.

1 Cor. 15:29-Otherwise, what will those do who are baptized for the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why then are they baptized for them?

12

Rom. 7:24-Wretched man that I am! Who will set me free from the body of this death?

Rom. 13:14-But put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh in regard to *its* lusts.

Gal. 5:13-For you were called to freedom, brethren; only *do* not *turn* your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.

1 John 1:9-If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

1 Cor. 4:8-13-⁸ You are already filled, you have already become rich, you have become kings without us; and indeed, *I* wish that you had become kings so that we also might reign with you. ⁹ For, I think, God has exhibited us apostles last of all, as men condemned to death; because we have become a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. ¹⁰ We are fools for Christ's sake, but you are prudent in Christ; we are weak, but you are strong; you are distinguished, but we are without honor. ¹¹ To this present hour we are both hungry and thirsty, and are poorly clothed, and are roughly treated, and are homeless; ¹² and we toil, working with our own hands; when we are reviled, we bless; when we are persecuted, we endure; ¹³ when we are slandered, we try to conciliate; we have become as the scum of the world, the dregs of all things, *even* until now.

Conclusion

Num. 6:24-26-²⁴ The LORD bless you, and keep you;
²⁵ The LORD make His face shine on you, And be gracious to you;
²⁶ The LORD lift up His countenance on you, And give you peace.'