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HOW TO FIND JOY IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE




PHILIPPIANS
Joy in the Christian life
Sermon series



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


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



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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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4 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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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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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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(Phil. 3:4-14)

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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 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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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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Other Items to Embrace in Lieu of Legalism
(Phil. 3:15-4:3)

Maturity (Phil. 3:15-16)

Avoiding license (Phil. 3:17-19)

Heavenly and eternal perspective (Phil. 3:20-21)

Unity (Phil. 4:1-3)



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Ephesians 4:11-16


"¹¹ And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, ¹² for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;" ¹³ until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which . . .



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Ephesians 4:11-16


"... belongs to the fullness of Christ.¹⁴ As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;¹⁵ but speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even . . .




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Ephesians 4:11-16

" . . . Christ,¹⁶ from whom the whole body, being fitted and held together by what every joint supplies, according to the proper working of each individual part, causes the growth of the body for the building up of itself in love."



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Charles Ryrie
The Ryrie Study Bible

"Philippians 3:15 (RSB:NASB1995U): 3:15 perfect = mature. In the latter half of the verse Paul says, in effect, 'If you don't agree, God will give you light on the subject.'"

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■ Unity (Phil. 4:1-3)



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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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Examples of Humble Service
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Charles Ryrie
The Ryrie Study Bible

"Philippians 3:17 (RSB:NASB1995U): 3:17 Not many believers can exhort others to imitate them (the literal meaning of follow)."

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1 John 4:1 (NASB)

"1 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world."



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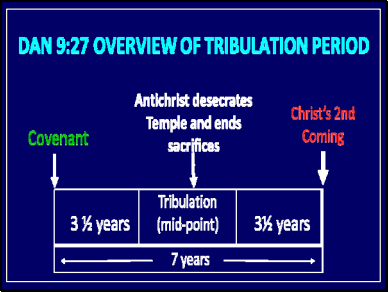
LIVING WITH

Eternal Perspective

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RAPTURE DISTINCT FROM SECOND ADVENT	
Rapture (1 Thess 4:13-17; 1 Cor 15:51-57)	Second Coming (Rev 19:11-16)
Christ comes in the air (1 Thess 4:16)	Christ comes to the earth (Zech 14:4)
For His saints (1 Thess 4:15-17)	With His saints (Rev 19:14)
Blessing (1 Thess 4:18)	Judgment (Rev 19:15)
Effects only believers (1 Thess 4:16)	Effects both believers and unbelievers (Rev 19:15)
Invisible (1 Thess 4:16)	Visible to all (Rev 1:7)
Announced only by an archangel (1 Thess 4:16)	Involves myriads of angels (Jude 14)
Resurrection (1 Cor15: 51)	No resurrection
Rescue of the church (1 Thess 1:10)	Rescue of Israel (Matt 23:37-39)

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When Will the Rapture Take Place?


■ Pre-tribulation rapture theory

■ Mid-tribulation rapture theory

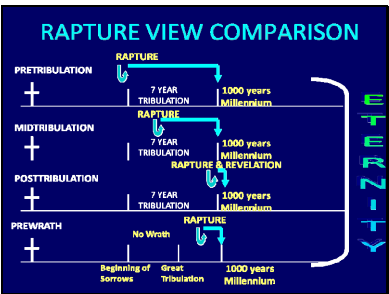
■ Post-tribulation rapture theory

■ Pre-wrath rapture theory

■ Partial rapture theory



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Pretribulationism is not Escapism

■ Trials (John 16:33)

■ Man's wrath (2 Tim 3:12)

■ Satan's wrath (Eph 6:11-12)


■ World's wrath (John 15:18-19)



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Romans 8:19-23

¹⁹ "For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now. ²³ And not only this, but also we ourselves, having the first fruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, waiting eagerly for our adoption as sons, the redemption of our body."



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Titus 2:13


"Looking for the blessed hope and the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Christ Jesus."



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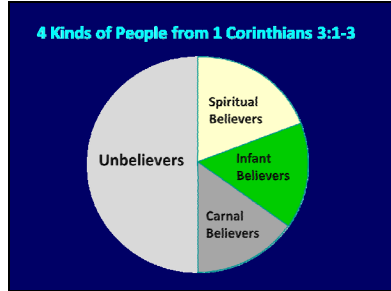
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1 Corinthians 3:1-3 (NKJV)

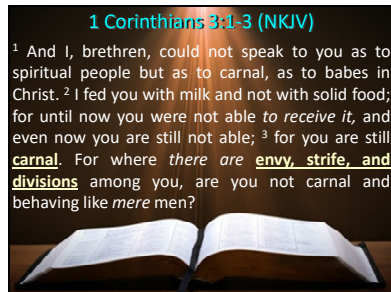
¹ And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ. ² I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able *to receive it*, and even now you are still not able; ³ for you are still carnal. For where *there are* envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like *mere* men?



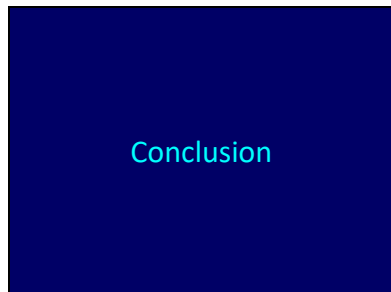
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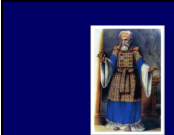
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“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)

3:15-16

1 Pet. 2:2-like newborn babies, long for the pure milk of the word,
so that by it you may **grow** in respect to salvation.

2 Tim. 2:23-24⁻²³ But refuse foolish and ignorant speculations, knowing that they produce quarrels. ²⁴ The Lord's bond-servant must not be quarrelsome, but be kind to all, able to teach, patient when wronged.

17

1 Cor. 11:1-Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

18

1 John 4:1-Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world.

Acts 20:29-31-²⁹ I know that after my departure savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; ³⁰ and from among your own selves men will arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after them. ³¹ Therefore be on the alert, remembering that night and day for a period of three years I did not cease to admonish each one with tears.

Gal. 2:21- I do not nullify the grace of God, for if righteousness *comes* through the Law, then Christ died needlessly.

19

Prov. 14:13-There is a way which seems right to a man, But its end is the way of death.

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.

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

Rom. 6:12-Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts

Col. 3:2-Set your mind on the things above, not on the things that are on earth.

20

Acts 16:12- and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia, a *Roman* colony; and we were staying in this city for some days.

Heb. 11:10-for he was looking for the city which has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

21

1 Cor. 15:50-51- ⁵⁰ Now I say this, brethren, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. ⁵¹ Behold, I tell you a mystery; we will not all sleep, but we will all be changed.

1 Cor. 15:53-54- ⁵³ For this perishable must put on the imperishable, and this mortal must put on immortality. ⁵⁴ But when this perishable will have put on the imperishable, and this mortal will have put on immortality, then will come about the saying that is written, “DEATH IS SWALLOWED UP in victory.

Gen. 3:19- By the sweat of your face You will eat bread, **Till you return to the ground, Because from it you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust you shall return.**

2 Cor. 4:16-Therefore **we do not lose heart**, but **though our outer man is decaying**, yet our inner man is being renewed day by day.

Matt. 28:18-And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, “**All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.**”

4:1-3

John 13:35-By this all men will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another.”

John 17:23- I in them and You in Me, that they may be perfected in unity, so that the world may know that You sent Me, and loved them, even as You have loved Me.

1 Cor. 6:7-Actually, then, it is **already a defeat for you**, that you have lawsuits with one another. Why not rather be wronged? Why not rather be defrauded?

Gal. 3:28-There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Eph. 4:2-3-² with all **humility** and **gentleness**, with **patience**, showing **tolerance** for one another **in love**,³ being diligent to **preserve the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace**.

Philip. 2:3-4-³ Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility of mind regard one another as more important than yourselves; ⁴ do not *merely* look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

Philip. 2:5-11-⁵ Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, although He existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, *and* being made in the likeness of men. ⁸ Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and that every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

John 17:17-Sanctify them in the **truth**; Your word is truth.

John 17:19-For their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they themselves also may be sanctified in **truth**.

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.'