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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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Outline

- Ch 1 – God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results
- Ch 2 – Christ's example of servanthood
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- 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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Draw Upon the Divine Resources for Daily life
(Phil. 4)

- Peace (Phil. 4:4-9)
- Contentment (Phil. 4:10-13)
- Provision (Phil. 4:14-19)



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Draw Upon the Divine Resources for Daily life
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- Peace (Phil. 4:4-9)
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- Provision (Phil. 4:14-19)



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Provision
(Phil. 4:14-19)

- I. Paul's Thankfulness for Generosity (Phil. 4:14-16)
- II. God's Reward for Generosity (Phil. 4:17)
- III. Sacrificial Worship = Generosity (Phil. 4:18)
- IV. God's provision for generosity (Phil. 4:19)



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God's Reward for the Giver
(Phil. 4:17)


- Proverbs 11:24-25
- Luke 6:38
- Acts 20:7
- Hebrews 11:6




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Provision
(Phil. 4:14-19)

- I. Paul's Thankfulness for Generosity (Phil. 4:14-16)
- II. God's Reward for Generosity (Phil. 4:17)
- III. **Sacrificial Worship = Generosity (Phil. 4:18)**
- IV. God's provision for generosity (Phil. 4:19)



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Occasion

1. News of Paul's imprisonment reaches Philippi
2. Epaphroditus comes from Philippi to Rome
3. Word of Epaphroditus' sickness reaches Philippi
4. Some Philippians came to Rome to express concern over Epaphroditus' condition
5. Epaphroditus returns to Philippi



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Spiritual Sacrifices


- Body – Rom. 12:1
- Praise – Heb. 13:15
- Good works – Phil. 2:17; 4:18
- Financial giving – Heb. 13:16



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Provision
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God's Provision for the Giver
(Phil. 4:19)


- Exodus 16
- 1 Kings 17:2-6
- Psalm 37:25
- Matthew 6:25-34



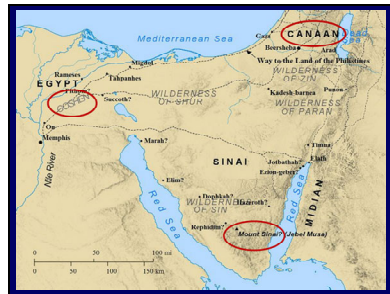
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God's Provision for the Giver
(Phil. 4:19)

- Exodus 16
- 1 Kings 17:2-6
- Psalm 37:25
- Matthew 6:25-34




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God's Provision for the Giver
(Phil. 4:19)

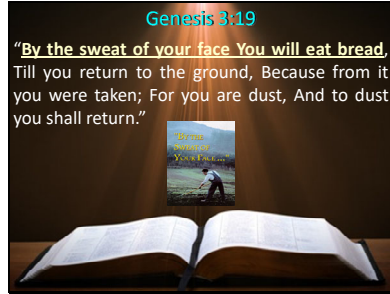
- Exodus 16
- 1 Kings 17:2-6
- Psalm 37:25
- Matthew 6:25-34



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Genesis 3:19

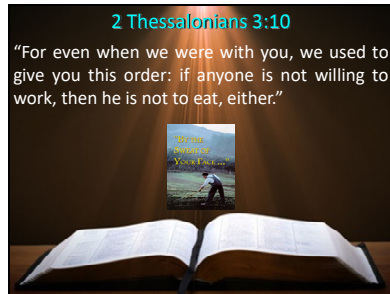
"By the sweat of your face You will eat bread,
Till you return to the ground, Because from it
you were taken; For you are dust, And to dust
you shall return."



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2 Thessalonians 3:10


"For even when we were with you, we used to
give you this order: if anyone is not willing to
work, then he is not to eat, either."



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God's Provision for the Giver
(Phil. 4:19)


- Exodus 16
- 1 Kings 17:2-6
- Psalm 37:25
- Matthew 6:25-34



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God's Provision for the Giver
(Phil. 4:19)


- Exodus 16
- 1 Kings 17:2-6
- Psalm 37:25
- **Matthew 6:25-34**



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Provision
(Phil. 4:14-19)


- I. Paul's Thankfulness for Generosity (Phil. 4:14-16)
- II. God's Reward for Generosity (Phil. 4:17)
- III. Sacrificial Worship = Generosity (Phil. 4:18)
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Conclusion
(Phil. 4:20-23)


- I. Doxology (Phil. 4:20)
- II. Greeting (Phil. 4:21-22)
- III. Benediction (Phil. 4:23)



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Conclusion
(Phil. 4:20-23)

- I. **Doxology (Phil. 4:20)**
- II. Greeting (Phil. 4:21-22)
- III. Benediction (Phil. 4:23)



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Dispensational Theology is a System of Theology

Traditional-normative dispensational theology is a system that embodies three essential, fundamental concepts called the **sine qua non** (lit. "without which is not"):

- 1. The **consistent** use of a plain, normal, literal, grammatical-historical method of interpretation;
- 2. Which reveals that the **Church is distinct from Israel**;
- 3. God's overall purpose is to bring **glory to Himself** (Eph. 1:6, 12, 14).

Dr. Charles Ryrie, Dispensationalism, pp. 38-41

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Doxological Purpose


- A. God's ultimate purpose for the ages is to glorify Himself. Scripture is not human-centered, as though salvation were the principle point, but God-centered, because His glory is at the center.
- B. The glory of God is the primary principle that unifies all dispensations, the program of salvation being just one of the means by which God glorifies Himself. Each successive revelation of God's plan for the ages, as well as His dealing with the elect, non-elect, angels, and nations all manifest His glory.

Dictionary of Premillennial Theology, Charles Ryrie, p. 94

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Conclusion
(Phil. 4:20-23)

- I. Doxology (Phil. 4:20)
- II. Greeting (Phil. 4:21-22)
- III. **Benediction (Phil. 4:23)**




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Conclusion

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Message

Joy in the midst of adverse circumstances is possible as believers understand that God uses adversity to bring about positive results, follow Christ's example of servanthood, avoid legalism, and draw upon divine resources for daily life



even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? You of little faith! ³¹ Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ ³² For the Gentiles eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. ³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

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Philip. 1:7-For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, **you all are partakers of grace with me.**

16

Acts 17:2-And according to Paul’s custom, he went to them, and for **three Sabbaths** reasoned with them from the Scriptures.

17

Luke 10:2-7-² And He was saying to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. ³ Go; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. ⁴ **Carry no money belt, no bag, no shoes; and greet no one on the way.** ⁵ Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace *be* to this house.’ ⁶ If a man of peace is there, your peace will rest on him; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷ **Stay in that house, eating and**

drinking what they give you; for the laborer is worthy of his wages. Do not keep moving from house to house.

Gal. 6:6-The one who is taught the word is to share all good things with the one who teaches *him*.

1 Cor. 9:11-If we sowed spiritual things in you, is it too much if we reap material things from you?

1 Cor. 9:15-16-¹⁵ But I have used none of these things. And I am not writing these things so that it will be done so in my case; for it would be better for me to die than have any man make my boast an empty one. ¹⁶ For if I preach the gospel, I have nothing to boast of, for I am under compulsion; for woe is me if I do not preach the gospel.

Jer. 20:9-But if I say, “I will not remember Him Or speak anymore in His name,” Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire Shut up in my bones; And I am weary of holding *it* in, And I cannot endure *it*.

Philip. 1:7-For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, **you all are partakers of grace with me.**

Prov. 11:24-25-²⁴ There is one who scatters, and *yet* increases all the more, And there is one who withholds what is justly due, *and yet it results* only in want. ²⁵ The generous man will be prosperous, And he who waters will himself be watered.

Luke 6:38-Give, and it will be given to you. They will pour into your lap a good measure—pressed down, shaken together, *and* running over. For by your standard of measure it will be measured to you in return.”

Acts 20:35-In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, ‘**It is more blessed to give than to receive.**’”

Heb. 11:6-And without faith it is impossible to please *Him*, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and *that* **He is a rewarder of those who seek Him.**

18

Rom. 12:1-Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies **a living and holy sacrifice**, acceptable to God, *which is* your spiritual service of worship.

19

1 Tim. 6:8- If we have food and covering, with these we shall be content.

Exod. 16:26-29-²⁶ Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, *the* sabbath, there will be none.” ²⁷ It came about on the seventh day that some of the people went out to gather, but they found none. ²⁸ Then the LORD said to Moses, “How long do you refuse to keep My commandments and My instructions? ²⁹ See, the LORD has given you the sabbath; therefore He gives you bread for two days on the sixth day. Remain every man in his place; let no man go out of his place on the seventh day.”

Josh. 5:12-The manna ceased on the day after they had eaten some of the produce of the land, so that the sons of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate some of the yield of the land of Canaan during that year.

Deut. 29:5-I have led you forty years in the wilderness; your clothes have not worn out on you, and your sandal has not worn out on your foot.

1 Kgs. 17:2-6-² The word of the LORD came to him, saying, ³“Go away from here and turn eastward, and hide yourself by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁴ It shall be that you will drink of the brook, and I have commanded the ravens to provide for you there.” ⁵ So he went and did according to the word of the LORD, for he went and lived by the brook Cherith, which is east of the Jordan. ⁶ The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he would drink from the brook.

Ps. 37:25-I have been young and now I am old, Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken Or his descendants begging bread.

Matt. 6:25-34-²⁵ “For this reason I say to you, do not be worried about your life, *as to* what you will eat or what you will drink; nor for your body, *as to* what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶ Look at the birds of the air, that they do not sow, nor reap nor gather into barns, and *yet* your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not worth much more than they? ²⁷ And who of you by being worried can add a *single* hour to his life? ²⁸ And why are you worried about clothing? Observe how the lilies of the field grow; they do not toil nor do they spin, ²⁹ yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his glory clothed himself like one of these. ³⁰ But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is *alive* today and tomorrow is thrown into the furnace, *will He* not much more *clothe* you? You of little faith! ³¹ Do not worry then, saying, ‘What will we eat?’ or ‘What will we drink?’ or ‘What will we wear for clothing?’ ³² For the Gentiles

eagerly seek all these things; for your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³ But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.

³⁴ “So do not worry about tomorrow; for tomorrow will care for itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own.

Ps. 50:10-For every beast of the forest is Mine, The cattle on a thousand hills.

20

Isa. 42:8- I am the LORD, that is My name; I will not give My glory to another, Nor My praise to graven images.

22

Philip. 1:7-For it is only right for me to feel this way about you all, because I have you in my heart, since both in **my imprisonment** and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers of grace with me.

Philip. 1:13-so that **my imprisonment** in *the cause of* Christ has become well known throughout the whole **praetorian guard** and to everyone else.

23

Philip. 1:2-**Grace** to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Conclusion

Num. 6:24-26-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.’