

14 Philippians 2:17-30

The Rejoicing of Likeminded Men

1. Phil 2:16-18

- a. Some people think Paul had a death wish, perhaps the Philippians did too
- b. They were troubled by circumstances which disrupted their joy - Phil 1:24-26, 28
- c. Paul is teaching them to have the mind of Christ about suffering for the Lord
- d. *"if I be offered"* - If he dies - it is joy to him and them. Why? Phil 1:29, 2:9, 2:16
- e. *"for the same cause"* → Phil 1:7, 18, 25, 27 - furthering the gospel work of Christ
 - i. *"Rejoice in the Lord"* - Phil 3:1, Phil 4:4 - ... not in the circumstances
 - ii. *"rejoice with me"* - Paul is facing possible death - Rom 12:15, Phil 3:18

2. Joy vs. Happiness

- a. Both are good emotions, but are different. Emotions must be driven by truth.
- b. The world (Christian and not) are trying to be the most happy.
- c. Happiness *def.* - fortunate, feeling / experiencing good or pleasure
 - i. Comes from happenstance (driven by circumstance) - Acts 26:2, Phil 1:12
 - ii. Leah is happy called blessed - Gen 30:13 see also 1Co 7:40, Rom 14:22
 - iii. The Christian life is not always a happy life, but it does produce lasting joy.
- d. Joy *def.* - A delight of the mind, expectation of good or something we desire, love
 - i. This describes your state of mind (from inside-out) - 1 Thess 5:16-18
 - ii. Rejoicing describes what pleases, delights, or satisfies you - Deu 12:18, 14:26

3. Phil 2:19-24

- a. *"rejoice with me"* - see Phil 2:2, likeminded men rejoice in the same thing
- b. Pattern of the mind of Christ (2:5-12), examples in Paul, Timothy, Epaphroditus
- c. Timothy was Paul's son in the faith, beloved, and faithful - 1 Tim 1:2, 2 Tim 1:2-4
- d. *"know your state"* - Paul sent Timothy to secure his fruit - 1Th 2:5, Gal 4:11, Ph 2:16
- e. *"no man likeminded"* - what a compliment to Tim, but also describes perilous times
 - i. Likemindedness has to do with his goals, what he esteemed - Phil 2:2-4
- f. *"the things which are Jesus Christ's"* - see the list, the things we rejoice in are different
- g. *"the proof of him"* - was it his personality, humor, possessions, no... his service

4. Phil 2:25-30

- a. *"I supposed it necessary"* - For the Philippians... remember Paul is in prison.
- b. Epaphroditus has one of the best resumes in Paul's ministry, his brother.
- c. He delivered the gift sent by the Philippians - Phil 4:18
- d. *"God had mercy on him"* - Which means God's healing program is no longer given
- e. *"sorrow upon sorrow"* - Paul is not cold hearted, he feels sorrow and tries to lessen it
- f. Paul brings up his sickness to explain why he was sent back, but also to explain how he performed his ministry despite the circumstances - *"not regarding"*
- g. *"your lack of service"* - Which was a lack of opportunity - Phil 4:10
- h. We can rejoice in likeminded men, because we all rejoice in the Lord not ourselves.

Things That Make Paul Rejoice

1. In his prayers for faithful saints - Phil 1:4, 1 Thess 3:9
2. Because Christ is preached - Phil 1:18
3. The furtherance of their faith - Phil 1:25, 2 Cor 1:24
4. In the likemindedness of saints with the mind of Christ - Phil 2:2
5. Holding forth the word of life - Phil 2:16
6. The saints, the brethren - Phil 2:28, 4:1, 1 Thess 2:19-20, 2 Tim 1:4
7. Rejoice in the Lord - Phil 3:1, Phil 3:3
8. The order of the saints - Col 2:5
9. The love of the saints - Phm 7
10. Faithfulness of the saints - Phm 20, 2 Cor 2:3, 2 Cor 7:9, 16, 8:2
11. It is a fruit of the Spirit - Gal 5:22
12. Joyful in tribulation - 2 Cor 7:4, 7:7, 7:13
13. Rejoice in the truth - 1 Cor 13:6
14. In the hope of the glory of God - Rom 5:2
15. Present atonement - Rom 5:11
16. Rejoice with others that do rejoice - Rom 12:15
17. The kingdom is joy - Rom 14:17
18. Rejoice in God's justice - Rom 15:10
19. To testify of the gospel of the grace of God - Acts 20:24

Things that are Christ's

1. The gospel of Christ - Rom 1:16, Rom 15:16, 1 Cor 9:12, 2 Cor 10:14, Phil 1:27
2. The churches of Christ - Rom 16:6
3. The body of Christ - Rom 7:4, 1 Cor 12:27, Eph 4:12
4. The testimony of Christ - 1 Cor 1:6
5. The cross of Christ - 1 Cor 1:17, Gal 6:12, Phil 3:18
6. The blood of Christ - 1 Cor 10:16, Eph 2:13
7. The mind of Christ - 1 Cor 2:16
8. The mystery of Christ - Eph 3:4, Col 2:2, Col 4:3
9. The ministry/ministers - 1 Cor 4:1, 2 Cor 11:23, Phil 2:30
10. The members - 1 Cor 6:15, 2 Cor 3:3
11. The riches of Christ - Eph 3:8
12. The word of Christ - Col 3:16
13. The Spirit of Christ - Rom 8:9
14. The love of Christ - Rom 8:35, 2 Cor 5:14, Eph 3:19
15. The judgment seat of Christ - Rom 14:10, 2 Cor 5:10
16. The sufferings of Christ - 2 Cor 1:5, Col 1:24
17. The day of Christ - Phil 1:10, 2:16