

Joy in Every Circumstance



Philippians 1:12-18

Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel,¹³ so that my imprisonment in *the cause of Christ* has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else,¹⁴ and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.¹⁵ Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will;¹⁶ the latter *do it* out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel;¹⁷ the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment.¹⁸ What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice.

It is easy to be joyful when things are going well in your life. Since joy is a choice, one of the great lessons is learning to Choose Joy in every circumstance.

My Circumstances (12)

- Four times in this chapter Paul refers to his "imprisonment"

What was "imprisonment" like?

There was no: _____

Difficult to: _____

Paul viewed this Imprisonment as a means that turned out for the _____ of the Gospel (13)

1. Contact with the _____
 - It became well _____ (13)
It wasn't just the fact that Paul was in prison but the reason, the _____ of Christ
2. Courage to the _____
 - It gave brethren the courage to _____ (15)
- 2 Timothy 2:9 the Word of God is not _____

Two Kinds of Preachers:

- (a) S _____ a _____ (17)
- their motives are E _____ & S _____
- they hope to cause Paul more problems
- (b) G _____ W _____ (15)
- their motives are L _____ (16)

3. Either way Paul rejoiced because Jesus was being _____ (18)

Three Lessons:

1. Paul put the kingdom before his own life
2. What we do impacts others. People notice
3. Paul rejoiced in every circumstance (1 Thes 5:18)

_____ from the world's standpoint

rests on _____:

- * P _____
- * A _____
- * The absence of c _____
- * Freedom from t _____
- * Always being treated r _____
- * Everything staying the s _____
- * Always getting my w _____

But joy? This joy is different. HOW?