

## Philippians 2:12-18

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, <sup>13</sup> for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

<sup>14</sup> Do all things without grumbling or disputing, <sup>15</sup> that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, <sup>16</sup> holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. <sup>17</sup> Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup> Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

# Joy in the midst of Crookedness



Once again in this section Paul uses the words "Joy" and "Rejoice." These are constant reminders and themes in this book.

1. This section begins with "Therefore" (12) connecting us to the humbleness and obedience of Jesus Christ.

The expression "work out your own salvation" (12) means to BRING IT OUT. Show it. Illustrate it. Live it.

2. Paul reminds the Philippians that God is actively working in them (13)

### God is working in you:

- (1) Shaping your w\_\_\_\_\_
- (2) D\_\_\_\_\_ His work
- (3) For His p\_\_\_\_\_

- They were to do this without grumbling (14): What is the opposite of grumbling?
- They were to be lights in the world (15)
- They were to hold fast God's word (16)
- They were to rejoice with Paul (18)

3. Paul referred to himself as a \_\_\_\_\_ that is being \_\_\_\_\_ out (17)

### THOUGHTS

1. In what ways is the world crooked and twisted?

2. To be blameless is to be \_\_\_\_\_

3. In what way might Paul have run in vain (16)?

4. Jesus used the idea of being lights in the world (Mt 5:14). What comes with being a light?

5. With a crooked and broken world, how can a child of God find reason to rejoice?

6. What impact does our rejoicing have upon others who are caught up in this crooked world?