

The Peace of God and the Joy of the Lord

Philippians 4:4-9

New King James Version (NKJV)

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

⁵ Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; ⁷ and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Meditate on These Things

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. ⁹ The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you.

V 4

Philippians 4:4

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⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

V2 Two Ladies

Philippians 4:2

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Be United, Joyful, and in Prayer

² I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

These two ladies had personal differences which were adversely affecting the church.

Example: pianist- Organist

Biblical Example

Acts 15:37-41

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³⁷ Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark. ³⁸ But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia, and had not gone with them to the work. ³⁹ Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took Mark and sailed to Cyprus; ⁴⁰ but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. ⁴¹ And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

V 39 A sharp contention

Adrian: Two men almost came to blows.

Hebrews 12:14

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¹⁴ Pursue peace with all *people*, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord:

Pursue – a conscious effort

Matthew 5:9

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⁹ Blessed *are* the peacemakers,
For they shall be called sons of God.

Philippians 2:3-4

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³ *Let nothing be done* through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself. ⁴ Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others.

God is the supreme peacemaker

I. The Spirit of Moderation v 5

When we go to speak ask three questions.

Is it true?

Is it kind?

Is it necessary?

The Lord is at hand V.5

How easy it is to show moderation of feeling when we are mindful of the presence of our Lord!

v.5 gentleness-graciousness forbearance.

Colossians 3:12-17

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Character of the New Man

¹² Therefore, as *the* elect of God, holy and beloved, put on tender mercies, kindness, humility, meekness, longsuffering; ¹³ bearing with one another, and forgiving one another, if anyone has a complaint against another; even as Christ forgave you, so you also *must do*. ¹⁴ But above all these things put on love, which is the bond of perfection. ¹⁵ And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. ¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷ And *whatever* you do in word or deed, *do* all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.

II. The discipline of prayer v.6

Philippians 4:6

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⁶ Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;

Anxious- stop worrying about even one thing.

Not your past.

Not your present.

Not your future.

Prayer and peace are closely connected.

My experience as a boy.

Isaiah 26:3

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³ You will keep *him* in perfect peace,
Whose mind is stayed on You,
Because he trusts in You.

Mind- When your plans and ideas are firmly founded on the eternal Lord you will enjoy peace in all areas of need in your life.

“Nevertheless Father not my will but Your will be done.”
---Jesus.

Ephesians 6:18 a

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¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit

Let God change your prayer life to a life of prayer.

I have so many things to pray about

My family

My church family

My nation

Myself

It can be overwhelming. That's why I need to be able to pray in the Holy Spirit.

III. Focused Living v. 8

Philippians 4:8

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Meditate on These Things

⁸ Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things *are* noble, whatever things *are* just, whatever things *are* pure, whatever things *are* lovely, whatever things *are* of good report, if *there is* any virtue and if *there is* anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.

We need to take our vitamins

Whatsoever things are:

True- honest-just-pure-lovely-of good report. Virtue-praise.

Our mind is a powerful part of who we are.

We need to focus on things that will result in right living and in God's peace.

The mind is a terrible thing to waste.

Your attitude will affect your altitude- John Maxwell

Our mind is like the altitude meter in a small airplane.

If we keep our mind focused we will not self-destruct.

Do these things and the God of peace will be with you.

John 14:27

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²⁷ Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Psalm 16:11

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¹¹ You will show me the path of life;
In Your presence *is* fullness of joy;
At Your right hand *are* pleasures forevermore.

Experience of Jerry Seville

Let us be reminded that Paul is writing this letter from a Roman prison

For Paul, true joy is not a surface emotion that depends on favorable conditions of the moment.

Joy can be possible during times of suffering and persecution.

The joy presented in Philippians involves eager expectation of the near Return of the lord.

Philippians 1:6

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⁶ being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete *it* until the day of Jesus Christ;

Philippians 1:10

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¹⁰ that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ,

Philippians 2:16

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¹⁶ holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

Philippians 3:20

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²⁰ For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,

Philippians 4:5

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⁵ Let your gentleness be known to all men. The Lord *is* at hand.

Joy is also experienced when we share the Gospel with the unsaved.

E.A.C.H

Philippians 1:18

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¹⁸ What then? Only *that* in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.

Hymn #36

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee.