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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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Positive Results of Imprisonment
(Phil. 1:12-30)

- Captive audience (Phil. 1:12-13)
- Church's boldness in preaching (Phil. 1:14-18)
- Greater prayer (Phil. 1:19)
- Protection from martyrdom (Phil. 1:20-26)



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Outline


- Ch 1 – God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results
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- Ch 3 – Avoiding legalism
- Ch 4 – Reliance upon Christ's strength for daily life



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Examples of Humble Service
(Phil. 2)


1. Christ (Phil. 2:5-16)
2. Paul (Phil. 2:17-18)
3. Timothy (Phil. 2:19-24)
4. Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:25-30)



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Examples of Humble Service
(Phil. 2)

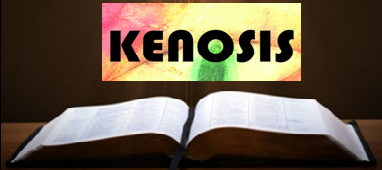
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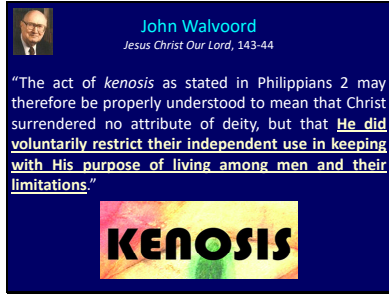
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Philippians 2:7

"7 but **emptied [kenōō]** Himself, taking the form of a bond-servant, and being made in the likeness of men."




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John Walvoord
Jesus Christ Our Lord, 143-44

"The act of *kenosis* as stated in Philippians 2 may therefore be properly understood to mean that Christ surrendered no attribute of deity, but that He did voluntarily restrict their independent use in keeping with His purpose of living among men and their limitations."



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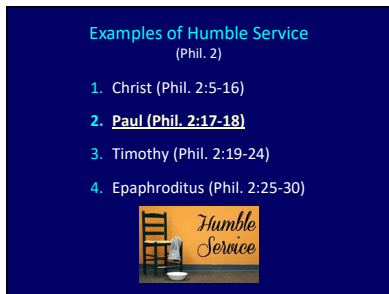


Applying Paul's Paradigm
(Phil. 2:12-16)

1. Progress in practical sanctification (Phil. 2:12-13)
2. Do not grumble or dispute (Phil. 2:14)
3. Be blameless in the world (Phil. 2:15)
4. Remain loyal to Christ (Phil. 2:16)




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Galatians 4:13-14


"¹³ but you know that it was because of a **bodily illness** that I preached the gospel to you the first time; ¹⁴ and that which was a trial to you in **my bodily condition** you did not despise or loathe, but you received me as an angel of God, as Christ Jesus *Himself*."



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Romans 8:19-22


¹⁹ "For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now."

An open book with white pages is shown from a top-down perspective. In the background, a stone tablet with a cross and some text is visible against a dark background.

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1 Timothy 5:23


"No longer drink water *exclusively*, but use a little wine for the sake of your stomach and your frequent ailments."

An open book with white pages is shown from a top-down perspective. In the background, a stone tablet with a cross and some text is visible against a dark background.

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2 Timothy 4:20


"Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus."

An open book with white pages is shown from a top-down perspective. In the background, a stone tablet with a cross and some text is visible against a dark background.

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Revelation 21:4

“and He will wipe away every **tear** from their eyes; and there will no longer be any **death**; there will no longer be any **mourning**, or **crying**, or **pain**; the **first things** have passed away.”




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Conclusion

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(Phil. 2)

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Intro

Prov. 11:24-25-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-remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, ‘It is more blessed to give than to receive.’”

17-18

2 Tim. 4:6-For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.

Constable-“Paul believed that he would die very soon. He used two euphemistic expressions to describe his impending death: First, his life was presently being "poured out" as a sacrifice to God, like the daily drink offerings in Judaism (Num. 15:1-10; cf.

Num. 28:4-7; Phil. 2:17). Soon there would be nothing left. After the Jewish priest offered the lamb, ram, or bull in this ritual, he poured wine beside the altar. This was the last act in the sacrificial ceremony, all of which symbolized the dedication of the believer to God in worship. The pouring out of the wine pictured the gradual ebbing away of Paul's life, that had been a living sacrifice to God since the apostle's conversion.”

Barclay-"Paul did not think of himself as going to be executed; he thought of himself as going to offer his life to God. His life was not being taken from him; he was laying it down. Ever since his conversion Paul had offered everything to God—his money, his scholarship, his strength, his time, the vigor of his body, the acuteness of his mind, the devotion of his passionate heart. Only life itself was left to offer, and gladly Paul was going to lay life down."

1 Cor. 11:1-Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

19

3 John 4-I have no greater joy than this, to hear of my children walking in the truth.

22

1 Tim. 1:2-To Timothy, *my* true child in *the* faith: Grace, mercy *and* peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

1 Tim. 3:10-These men **must also first be tested**; then let them serve as deacons if they are beyond reproach.

25-30

Isa. 53:5-But He was pierced through for our transgressions, He was crushed for our iniquities; The chastening for our well-being *fell* upon Him, And **by His scourging we are healed.**

2 Cor. 12:8-9-⁸ Concerning this I implored the Lord three times that it might leave me. ⁹ And He has said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness.” Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

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.’