

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

JOY FOR EVERY SITUATION

PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 2:14-18

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“FAITH ON FIRE”

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CHRISTIAN BURNS.

DISCOVERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND HIS JOY IN EVERY SITUATION

Part 1

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Salvation, Power, Comfort, Growth, Living

Introduction to the Text;

Philippians 2:14-18

Philippians 2:1-4

Therefore if there is any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and mercy, 2 fulfill my joy by being **like-minded**, having the same **love**, being of **one accord**, of **one mind**. 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.

Philippians 2:5-11

Let this mind be in you (all of these selfless attitudes) which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, 7 but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men. 8 And being found in appearance as a (human) man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross. 9 **Therefore** God also has highly exalted Him (Christ in His humanity) and given Him the name which is above every name, 10 that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, 11 and that every tongue should confess that **Jesus Christ is Lord**, to the glory of God the Father.

Philippians 2:12 -13

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

Philippians 2:14-18

:14 Do all things without **complaining** and **disputing**, **15** that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, **among whom** you shine as lights in the world, **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. **:17** Yes, and if I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. **18** For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

FAITH ON FIRE

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CHRISTIAN BURNS

1 Peter 1:22-23

Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another **fervently** with a pure heart, **23** having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,

Vintage

[http://www.albion-prints.com/ekmps/shops/albionprint/images/foxe-s-book-of-martyrs-c1780-hand-col--burnings-at-smithfield-canterbury-\[2\]-27499-p.jpg](http://www.albion-prints.com/ekmps/shops/albionprint/images/foxe-s-book-of-martyrs-c1780-hand-col--burnings-at-smithfield-canterbury-[2]-27499-p.jpg)

<http://www.pensitoreview.com/Wordpress/wp-content/uploads/art-jacques-molay-burned-alive.jpg>

Modern

<http://www.nowtheendbegins.com/christian-couple-burned-alive-pakistan-muslim-mob/>

There is a Great Need today for the Church to be Ablaze.

Against the darkness of this age the Christian's hour has come.
The time is now and the need is great for us burn as lights in this world.

But to do so – we must take the fire off the Altar of God

About This Need – Tozer Writes;

There is a hunger that must be recognized by our religious leaders. Current evangelicalism has laid the altar and divided the sacrifice into parts, but now seems satisfied to count the stones and rearrange the pieces with never a care that there is not a sign of fire upon the top of lofty Carmel. But God be thanked that there are a few who care. They are those who, while they love the altar and delight in the sacrifice, are yet unable to reconcile themselves to the continued absence of fire. They desire God above all. They are athirst to taste for themselves the "piercing sweetness" of the love of Christ about Whom all the holy prophets did write and the psalmists did sing.

FAITH ON FIRE

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A CHRISTIAN BURNS

1.) **Is a faith that cannot be hidden**

vs. 14-15

1a.) **So prepare to be burned**

vs. 14

Do **all things** without **complaining** and **disputing**,

When we complain and dispute we are manifesting an ungodly attitude or spirit of **unbelief in God**

Complaining γογγυσμός **goggusmos**, *gong-goos-mos*´; a grumbling, grudging, grinding, murmuring.

disputing διαλογισμός **dialogismos**, *dee-al-og-is-mos*´; unproductive discussion, illogical debating, // we get our English word “dialogue” from this HOWEVER in the Bible dialogue is rarely, if at all ever a good thing because it’s purest meaning is... the internal, private, self-relating conversations with no one but yourself. this is dangerous.

We Must Be Prepared as a People

Romans 12:1a

I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you **present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God,**

When I complain - I am saying God does know what He’s doing.

When I complain I am saying I know how to do it better.

When I complain I am saying I do not deserve this.

The Israelites had perfected it

Murmuring is a form of complaining and the Israelites perfected it in the wilderness wanderings of the Sinai.

Exodus 16:1-3

And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt. **2** Then the whole

congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. **3** And the children of Israel said to them, “Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

R. Kent Hughes points out that;

“The modern day Christian is living in the days of the McChurch. It’s the kind of church-age which creates McChristians. If something isn’t to their liking at their church – they simply pack up and move on to another church so they can have it their way.”

“I’m not sure if you heard of that guy that had been shipwrecked on a remote south pacific island for years. Finally the coast guard on a routine patrol approached the island close enough to see what looked like three man-made structures, three buildings on the island. Stopping and investigating they discovered a solitary man had survived there alone for years. Surprised and excited, the man asked “how is that you found me?” The coast guard answered, “we saw these three buildings from a distance – that’s how we knew to stop and take a look around. So what are these buildings anyway?” “Well”, the man answered “This is my house, This is where I live. And this other building, this is my church.” But what about the third building” asked the Coast Guard Captain “O that’s the church I used to attend.”

I find it interesting that Atheists Never Prove Their Point – They Just Complain about how the God they do not Believe in has messed things up.

When we complain we are saying that we know how to love ourselves better than God can love us.

**That we should never suffer needs. When we complain we are displaying arrogance and by doing this - - we are blaspheming God !
(we are saying – He’s not big enough, strong enough, loving enough)**

Such an attitude, if left unchecked becomes the Person, it actually “Defines a Persons Life”

(1) they become unthankful, (2) they become unholy in their lifestyles, (3) they become incapable of loving other people, (4) they refuse to forgive others (5) they have to mock or put down others, (6) emotionally unpredictable. (7) mean-spirited, reject what God has required, (8) having no intention of keeping their word. (9) stubborn, arrogant to the point of being self-led

Complaining and Whining is Contagious & Toxic

Galatians 5:7-9 NLT

You were running the race so well. Who has held you back from following the truth? 8 It certainly isn't God, for He is the one who called you to freedom. 9 This false teaching (act) is like a little yeast (sin) that spreads through the whole batch of dough!

The Opposite of This Warning Is; Contentment and Thankfulness **Here's the Remedy for Complaining**

1 Thessalonians 5:18

In everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Philippians 4:11-13 NIV

I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. 12 I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. 13 I can do all this through him who gives me strength.

FAITH ON FIRE **IS A FAITH THAT CANNOT BE HIDDEN**

1b.) So prepare to be **consumed**

vs. 15a

15 that you may **become** (you will become more and more like this)
blameless and harmless, children of God...

Contrary to Modern Day Liberal Theology – We're not all Related.

**being a child of God means that we are no longer
related to Satan. We have been given a new DNA.**

John 8:42-44

Jesus said to them, "If God were your Father, you would love Me, for I proceeded forth and came from God; nor have I come of Myself, but He sent Me. 43 Why do you not understand My speech? Because you are not able to listen to My word. 44 You are of your father the devil, and the desires of your father you want to do.

“that you may **become**”

What are some of the “**spiritual birthmarks**” of the Child of God, The Believer?

We have our Father’s eyes and ears now. We have His heart for...

Regarding these “Spiritual Birthmarks”

Galatians 5:22-23

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23** gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.

Remember This Christian – The Fruit cannot produce itself.

“**Look What I’ve Done**”

created some joy, added some peace, I’ve put up with alot, but I’ve been kind...

1 Peter 4:12-17 NIV

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. **13** But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed. **14** If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you. **15** If you suffer, it should not be as a murderer or thief or any other kind of criminal, or even as a meddler. **16** However, if you suffer as a Christian, do not be ashamed, but praise God that you bear that name. **17** For it is time for judgment to begin with God’s household;

FAITH ON FIRE
IS A FAITH THAT CANNOT BE HIDDEN

1c.) So prepare to be **seen**

vs. 15b

without fault **in the midst of** a crooked and perverse generation, (Roman) among whom (against this backdrop of darkness) **YOU SHINE AS LIGHTS** in the world,

Notice where the church is to be...

In the epicenter of the culture.

Christians are to be infused / deployed out into a dark, twisted, perverse culture.
It's not my choice but, this is exactly why I live here in **SoCal** for now.

among whom you shine as lights in the world,

We Were Re-Created To Be Seen not Hidden.

Imagine if we were to read a Christian retirement brochure from God.

“Situated high atop a dung heap and right in the middle of a dark and perverse city, is the perfect place for you. With rampant materialism, selfcenterness and where false religions abound – this is the ideal spot for you. Imagine encountering the walking dead every day - while you have the never-ending opportunity to tell hurting people about the love of God through Jesus Christ. So escape from boring Christianity, this is real living, this is real Christianity, call 1-800-Sign-Me-Up

Buying a Diamond Ring Against a Black Background

Daniel 12:3

Those who are wise shall shine Like the brightness of the firmament, And those who turn many to righteousness Like the stars forever and ever.

Honestly Christian, Listen Carefully.

You are in this world that is fallen and in the dark.

This Week God will bring to you situations

And everything that you will be experiencing will come from either one of two camps - - **#1** from the evil one that drives destruction, pain and sorrow or - - **#2** from the hand of God who loves you and is working good for you.

John 10:10

The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.

John 16:33

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

End of Study

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