

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

JOY FOR EVERY SITUATION

PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 4:1-4

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“ How To Have The Peace Of God When...”

DISCOVERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND HIS JOY IN EVERY SITUATION

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Salvation, Power, Comfort, Growth, Living

Introduction to the Text:

Philippians 4:1-4

Do you remember when you were little and your mom or your dad would either tuck you into bed or send you off to school and depending upon what kind of day it was or what kind of day it was going to be, you were comforted / prepared by the love of another.

By either bed-time comfort / or for daytime preparation, you were made secure and the result was you were secure.

In a real and powerful way, Jesus desires to
(1) send you out into the wilds of this world by day and
(2) to tuck you into His comfort by night.

That's why so many of the New Testament churches were greeted by the apostle Paul in this way...

“Grace to you and Peace”

To the Galatian Believers 1:3

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ,

To the Ephesian Believers 1:2

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

To the Colossian Believers 1:2

To the saints and faithful brethren in Christ who are in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

To the Corinthian Believers 2 Corinthians 1:2

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

And when Paul wrote to the Church at Rome –
The Church that was in the belly of the beast, he said;

To the Roman Believers 1:7

To all who are in Rome, beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Grace charis, khar'-ece;
the divine influence upon the heart, special benefit, unmerited favor, bestowed joy, liberality, pleasure.

Peace eirene, i-ray'-nay:
Prosperity of soul. oneness, quietness of mind, rest, to set at one again.

And when Paul wrote to the Church at Philippi –
A Church very dear to him for so many reasons, he said

To the Philippian Believers 1:2

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

So now We come to the final Chapter of the Book of Philippians - -
Chapter 4 which ends just as you would think – as Paul signs off on his letter to them,
he does so with heartfelt, fatherly instructions.

An outline is given for the Chapter

In verses 1-4

He teaches us How to have peace with others
Which results in joy

In verses 5-9

He teaches us How to have **peace with ourselves**
Which results in **joy**

In verses 10-23

He teaches us How to have **peace in every situation**
Which results in **joy**

Philippians 4:1-4

Therefore, my **beloved** and **longed-for** brethren, my **joy** and **crown**, so **stand fast** in the Lord, beloved. **2** I **implore** Euodia and I **implore** (sin-ta-key) Syntyche to be of the **same mind** in the Lord. **3** And I **urge** you also, **true companion**, **help** these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in **the Book of Life**. **4** **Rejoice** in the Lord **always**. Again I say, **rejoice!**

How To Have The Peace of God When

1.) We've forgotten **who we are**

vs. 1

In verses 1-4

He teaches us How to have **peace with others**
Which results in **joy**

How To Have The Peace of God When We've Forgotten Who We Really Are

1a.) We are **the beloved** of God

vs. 1a

Therefore, my **beloved** and **longed-for brethren**, my **joy** and **crown**,

Notice here that Paul makes this - very personal.

MY beloved, **MY** longed-for brethren, **MY** joy, **MY** crown

beloved adelphos, ad-el-fos´;

From the womb, a brother or sister from the womb or birthplace of the Spirit.

longed **epipothetos, ep-ee-poth'-ay-tos;**
To be yearned for or upon, greatly loved from afar. longed foreign

joy **chara, khar-ah**
cheerfulness, calm delight, gladness

crown **stephanos, stef'-an-os;**
to twine or wreath a crown); a chaplet (as a badge of royalty, a prize.)

What a victor's wreath (stephanos) meant to an Olympic runner,
so the church at Philippi meant to Paul.

1 Thessalonians 2:19-20

For what is our hope, or joy, or **crown** of rejoicing? Is it not even you in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at His coming? **20** For you are our glory and joy.

The Result of This Truth is - - Peace

Colossians 3:15

And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful.

How To Have The Peace of God When
We've Forgotten Who We Really Are

1b.) We are **the defended** of God vs. 1b

vs. 1b so **stand fast IN** the Lord, **beloved**.

Stand fast steko, stay'-ko;

a military command. to be the stationary of God, the persevere of God, the defended of God.

This is a Gladiatorial term used here:

If the battle seemed to have turned against you, The Gladiator would “turn to the gods for defense”. The Roman Centurions would do the same –

And the Christian is to do just that!

Ephesians 6:13

Wherefore take unto you the **whole armor of God**, that ye may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand. Stand therefore...

Ephesians 6:14-18 NLT

Stand your ground, putting on the belt of truth and the body armor of God's righteousness. **15** For shoes, put on the peace that comes from the Good News so that you will be fully prepared. **16** In addition to all of these, hold up the shield of faith to stop the fiery arrows of the devil. **17** Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. **18** Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

How To Have The Peace of God When

2.) We've forgotten **what we are**

vs. 2-3a

2a.) We are **ministers** to one another

vs. 2

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

This is an issue of conflict. There is a situation there of such a contention that it has made it to the apostle Paul while he is in a Roman jail.

And it's on the pages of the Bible!!!

(Can you imagine how this played out one Sunday morning in Philippi?)

Strife and Division from Within Threatens a Local Church

- (+) There are much needed splits that result in a healthier church.
- (-) But there are ugly and bitter splits that ought never to happen.

2 Corinthians 5:18-19

Now all things are of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 that is, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses to them, and has committed to us the word of reconciliation.

These were prominent women in the church at Philippi who had no doubt served in the office of a deaconess but something had gotten between them.

Matthew 18:15-17

“Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. **16** But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that “by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.’ **17** And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

Implore parakaleo, par-ak-al-eh'-o;

an order as from a commander. a summons as from a court – to come near, to come alongside of another. to escort as it were one another.
(a function of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer)

same mind phroneo, fron-eh'-o

to think the same thoughts - at the same time about the same thing.
(a company's or a teams dream come true) – those who have the same mind. do will arrive at the same point at the same moment for the same reason.

Simply put – “both of you think about the situation just like Jesus would”

James 5:16

Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed.

Psalm 133:1

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is

For **brethren** (those of the same mind, arriving at the same point, and the same moment, for the same reasons) to dwell together in **unity**!

Being **“brethren”** is a doctrinal qualifier, to **“dwell together”** is their personal effort, and the result is collective **“unity”**.

The Result of This Truth is - - Peace

Hebrews 12:14-15

Work at living in peace with everyone, and work at living a holy life, for those who are not holy will not see the Lord. **15** Look after each other so that none of you fails to receive the grace of God. Watch out that no poisonous root of bitterness grows up to trouble you, corrupting many.

How To Have The Peace of God When
We've Forgotten What We Are

2b.) We are **one** among many

vs. 3

vs.3 And I **urge** you also, **true companion**, **help** these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, **and the rest of** my fellow workers,

And I **urge** you also, **true companion...**

But who is this “True Companion”, we cannot say for sure.

The best guess is that it is Epaphroditus, the carrier of this letter, or it could have been Lydia, the first woman converted by Paul in Philippi.

(always best to have a woman, (Lydia) minister to women).

urge

erotao, *er-o-tah'-o*;

to interrogate, to request with passion. to beckon, to beseech, to entreat.

true

gnesios, *gnay'-see-os*;

one of legitimate birth, a genuine believer, proven to be true. sincere or without wax.

companion

suzugos, *sood'-zoo-gos*;

to be yoked together. To pull the load or to share the burden. to be a co-servant-minister.

Romans 12:4-5

For as we have many members in one body, but all the members do not have the same function, **5** so we, being many, are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. **13** For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free - and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. **14** For in fact the body is not one member but many.

The Result of This Truth is - - Peace

Romans 12:18

If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men.

How To Have The Peace of God When

3.) We've forgotten **where we belong**

vs. 3b-4

3a.) We are **secured by God**

vs. 3b

vs. 3b Whose **names** are in **the Book of Life**.

Remembering This – *It is the Holy Spirit that is **speaking doctrine** through Paul.*

Psalms 69:27-28

Add iniquity to their iniquity, And let them not come into Your righteousness. **28** Let them be **blotted out of the book of the living**, And not be written with the righteous.

Exodus 32:32

Yet now, if You will forgive their sin - but if not, I pray, **blot me out of Your book** which You have written."

Revelation 3:5

He who overcomes shall be clothed in white garments, and **I will not blot out his name from the Book of Life**; but I will confess his name before My Father and before His angels.

Revelation 20:15

And anyone not found written in **the Book of Life** was cast into the lake of fire.

Revelation 21:27

But there shall by no means enter it anything that defiles, or causes an abomination or a lie, but only those who are written in **the Lamb's Book of Life**.

Revelation 13:8

All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the **Book of Life of the Lamb** slain from the foundation of the world.

Concerning The Lost

It is my understanding of Scripture that **(1)** every human being given life has their name recorded in the Book of Life. I believe that as long as they live, their name is on file having been given life by God. However **(2)** if they refuse to come to Christ during their lifetime and die having rejected Christ, then their name is blotted out of the Book of Life.

Concerning The Saved

It is my understanding of Scripture that **(1)** every human being given life has their name recorded in the Book of Life. I believe that the moment they are Born-Again their name is then recorded or copied into the **Lambs Book of Life**. **(2)** Only then can the believer's name never be blotted out of the **Book of Life** because their name is now written in the **Lambs Book of Life**.

To Keep Your Name in The Book of Life:

Make Sure Your Name Has Been Copied into **The Lambs Book of Life**.

How To Have The Peace of God When
We've Forgotten Where We Belong

3b.) We are **owned by God**

vs. 4

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

You can learn a lot from what the world protests.

In almost all of the issues – God has the exact opposite reason or purpose.

For example – the world argues and screams against law and order when they themselves are the unruly.

Until something evil or dangerous happens to them – *then they understand.*

The world argues and screams against others having more than they do.

Until they need a job and realize that no one has ever been hired by a poor man – *then they understand.*

And when it comes to what makes a relationship meaningful, the world argues and complains against commitment and faithfulness.

Until they fall in love and loyalty, possession, submission, and fidelity in marriage matter – then they understand.

The Result of This Truth is - - Peace

John 14:27

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.

COME TO JESUS TODAY

The **Cross**, The **Christ**, The **Call**

————— *End of Study* —————

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