

Series "Joy In Christ"
"Be Good Citizens Of Heaven"
Philippians 1:27-30
Study-6

Matthew 5:16; Philippians 1:27

"That, along with privilege, comes responsibility."

Philippians 1 – Joy In Living: Joy Despite Unfulfilled Desires, Joy Despite Circumstances, Joy Despite Conflicts

Paul's Circumstances Strengthened The Gospel: Philippians 1:5
Paul's Circumstances Help Further The Gospel: Philippians 1:12

Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.
Paul focused first on life, then on death.

Now, What Is The Outcome Of Paul's Circumstances?

Paul's Circumstances Help Strengthen Their Faith In The Gospel:
Philippians 1:27

Thought Of Our Passage: "Citizens Of Heaven Live Consistently In Cooperation With Courage Knowing Persecution Is A Sign Of Our Salvation."

- 1. Verse 27 Consistency:**
- 2. Verse 27 Cooperation:**
- 3. Verse 28-30 Courage:**

1. Verse 27 Consistency:

Philippians 1:27 Only –

Context – Paul has just spoken about (Living) to live is Christ, then he spoke of (Death) as gain. **Philippians 1:21**

Believer Is A Citizen Of Heaven:

Only – *"This one thing and this only"* **conduct yourselves**

The (KJV) **27 Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ:**

Conversation – Old English word that means, *"Your walk was your walk"*

Greek word Polis – *"City" polis*

English *"Politics" speaks of "a city with its citizens living politically consistent with its laws" "live as citizens, behave constantly as citizens"*

Ephesians 4:1; Colossians 1:10

The consistent behavior of the Christian is powerful. 1 Peter 2:12

Philippi – Was a "Roman Colony."

A title that was a coveted prize.

The Citizens' names were on the rolls in Rome, legal positions.

Christians Are The Best Citizens, loyal to God and others, walking their talk, Not Shaming The Name!

Philippians 3:20

For our citizenship is in heaven, (Christians Have Dual Citizenship)

Believers Must Be Worthy Citizens: in a manner worthy

The term "**Worthy**" means "*To balance*"

The idea of a scale, to weigh out and balance what we are positionally with what we are experientially.

Philippians 1:1-26

Paul has taught doctrine concerning afflictions/circumstances.

Now **Philippians 1:27-30** Paul deals with their behavior.

In Ephesians 1-3, the keyword is **wealth**;

In **Ephesians 4-6**, the keyword is **walk**.

"The Sermon On The Mount" started with the "**Beatitudes**," not the "**Do-attitudes**." Jesus emphasized being in order to be a doer. **Matthew 5:3-12**
Beatitudes

Romans 1-11: Paul systematically lays out our great **Salvation**.

He then writes in **Romans 12:1 I urge you therefore,**

Romans 12-16 Practical.

Galatians 1-4 Doctrinal then **Galatians 5-6** Practical **Galatians 5:1**

**Believer Must Represent The Gospel:
of the gospel of Christ,**

Believers represent Christ, we must not shame His name.

2 Corinthians 5:20

Consistency: so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you We live this new life before God.

2. Verses 27 Cooperation:

Philippians 1:27

Standing Together One Spirit, One Mind: that you are standing firm describes "*true brotherhood of fighting side by side*" (Holding our ground!)

Unity: in one spirit, "One Soul, not having rivalries"

Speaks of Unity, Cooperation! Philippians 4:2; Ephesians 4:2-3

Unity: with one mind – Greek "*psyche*" our affections, and moral energies, how we feel about things, how we react to things.

(What's valuable, oneness of decision and ambition) **Philippians 2:2-5**

Stand Together For The Faith Of The Gospel:

striving together for the faith of the gospel;

This word **striving** we get our term *athletic*.

The church is a team concept. For the faith - (body of truth) of the gospel;

1 Timothy 4:1 the faith; Jude 1:3

3. Verse 28-30 Courage:

Philippians 1:28 Note a Consistent walk, and Unity and Cooperation in the gospel. This leads to opposition and persecution.

Stand Together Without Becoming Alarmed By Opposition:

in no way alarmed by your opponents—

in no way alarmed – (only time this word is used in the NT.)

Speaks of "*horses that were spooked into an uncontrolled stampede, terrified.*"

Matthew 10:28

2 Timothy 3:12 will be persecuted.

opponents or adversaries,

Literally "*those standing against you*" who were they?

Romans -

Jews -

Judaizers -

Three Reasons Why God Allows Suffering and Persecution For His Children?

1. Persecution Reveals Who Belongs To God: which is a sign of

destruction for them, When we are being persecuted by others, note our persecutors have no relationship with God. **Mark 13:13**

Matthew 16:18

Reveals Who Is Saved: but of salvation for you, and that too, from God.

Believer's Salvation Means Unbelievers' Judgment: 2 Thessalonians 1:6-7

**We think something is wrong when we are persecuted. NO!
It proves that we are Christians; that we are children of God!**

Philippians 1:29

2. Persecution Is A Privilege (Gift):

For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake,

granted – Literally "*To do one a favor, give graciously*"

John 16:33 In the world you have tribulation, but take courage;

not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,

This is a gift from God. Jesus set the example for us to suffer. **1 Peter 4:14**

No Credit For Suffering Because Of Our Sin: 1 Peter 2:19-20

We may never suffer to the same degree that Paul and the early Church suffered.

Philippians 3:10 fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

Philippians 1:30

3. Persecution Is Common For Believers:

experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me,

conflict – "*agonize*" These believers were suffering just like Paul

which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.

Paul was beaten and placed in stocks in Philippi, and now Paul was in prison in Rome. **1 Thessalonians 2:2**

Application:

1. Consistency: Believers Are To Consistently Live As Citizens Of Heaven Here On Earth. We Are Ambassadors Of Christ.
2. Cooperation: Believers Are To Be Unified With The Same Mindset. As A Team Focused Upon The Gospel Truth.
3. Courage: Persecution Reveals Who Belongs To God, Persecution Is A Gift/Privilege, Persecution Is Common For Believers.