

Series "Joy In Christ"
"The Marks Of Humble Service"
Philippians 2:12-18
Part-9

Philippians 2 - Joy In Serving: (Submissive Mind)

Paul's Plea - Be Like-Minded: Philippians 2:1-4

Jesus' Pattern - The Humility Of Jesus: Philippians 2:5-11

Believers Process - The Marks Of Humble Service: Philippians 2:12-18

Jesus, our example, literally works through us, Philippians 2:13

Believers Process - Philippians 2:15

Thought Of Our Passage: "Following Jesus' Example Results In Growing In Our Salvation, Being Blameless, And Joyful In Our Sacrificial Service."

1. Verses 12-13 Determination:

2. Verses 14-16 Blameless:

3. Verses 17-18 Joyful:

1. Verses 12-13 Determination:

Philippians 2:12 So then,

Context – so then what? (*Logical application to what Paul just said*) Paul has just spoken of the need for unity and harmony. He finished by using Jesus Christ as the example of humility. (**Verses - 5-11**) (His Humility)

Verse 12 Human Responsibility:

my beloved, (brethren eight times) in this letter.

just as you have always

This speaks of the stability of their Christian walk.

Obedience: obeyed - compound word. "*Under*" and "*hear*."

Thus, a person obeys when he puts himself under the authority of one who is speaking. **Rom. 6:16-17**

not as in my presence only,

It is a shallow obedience that is based on the on-looking

but now much more in my absence,

That God would cause the increase.

Work: work out your salvation

It says, "*Work out your salvation*"

Unless God has worked in us there will be no working out. (**Saints already**)

Philippians 1:6

work out - (Command - Devote yourself) Literally – "*Keep working down*" (*To completion*) involves a constant process of self-initiated activity.

In Paul's day, **work out** was used in a mine, which was to be worked and take out all the valuable ore possible, or working a field. (Live it out! Let it all become a reality!)

Paul Presents both God's Sovereignty and Human Responsibility:

Verse 12 work out – (Human)

Verse 13 for it is God who is at work in you, (Divine).

It is both human and divine.

Salvation involves two aspects in the experience.

1. Divine – Regeneration – (Born again) salvation is initiated and provided

2. Human – By Faith - Salvation is appropriated. Repentance and faith towards God.

Ephesians 2:10

(Salvation Past Tense) From The Penalty of Sin:

Justification – 2 Timothy 1:9

(Salvation Present Tense) From The Power of Sin:

Sanctification - Hebrews 7:25

(Salvation Future Tense) From The Presence of Sin:

Glorification – 1 John 3:2

with fear and trembling; (Weak and dependent upon God) The attitude of the work is **with fear and trembling**; Speaks of "*reverence and healthy respect.*" **1 Corinthians 2:3; 10:12; James 4:8-10**, holy fear of sin is natural. **Titus 2:11-12**

Verse – 13 Enablement Comes From God: **Philippians 2:13 for**

for it is God - God is in the definite article, which makes it "*God the Father.*"

Father - prunes and cleanses each saint. **John 15:1-2**

Holy Spirit - produces His fruit within the child of God. **Galatians 5:22-23**

Jesus Christ - lives through each Christian. **Galatians 2:20**

who is at work in you, -

work - We get our word "*Energy*" "*The one who energizes*"

both to will His desires. **to will**" **1 Thessalonians 4:3; Hebrews 12:5-11**

and to work "*to do*" means work. **Philippians 4:13; 1 Corinthians 15:10**

for His good pleasure. This is for His glory.

2. Verses 14-16 Blameless:

Philippians 2:14 Do - speaks of continued action, that which is done continually. **all things** Literally - "*All things keep on doing*"

Discontent: without grumbling - (Actions - Rebellion) Is "without grudging" "complaining" reflects a discontent, bad attitude that manifests itself in grumbling. A verb which means to mutter or to grumble. (Outward) (**Genesis 3:11-13**)

O.T. the term **murmuring** children of Israel **Deuteronomy 32:5**
Philippian church - Disunity **Philippians 2:2** more to come in **Philippians 4:2**
1 Corinthians 10:10

Evil Reasonings: or disputing - (Attitude leads to arguing) Based on a Greek word for which we get our English word "Dialogue." "an inward intellectual rebellion where the mind weighs the truth of God, sits in judgment upon it, and condemns it.

It is sinful to argue with God, and also to direct at others.

Philippians 2:15 so that you will prove yourselves

Rather, "that you may become"

Blameless Behavior: blameless - (outward) not perfection, "freedom from censure" blameless means to be judged by others to be pure.

innocent - (inward) "pure, or without mixture"

It was used to describe metal that was pure (used of pure gold jewelry), which was without any alloy.

children of God - We become children of God by regeneration. (**John 1:12**) by adoption (**Gal. 4:4-7**). As children, we inherit the new nature from our heavenly Father.

Spotless Children: above reproach - "Without spot or blemish."

in the midst of a crooked -

"That which is curved in contrast to that which is straight."

"Unscrupulous, dishonest."

in the midst of notice that the **Christian is not to be an isolationist!**

and perverse generation, perverse - "that which is permanently distorted and twisted, to turn away to pervert" Idea of being depraved.

Lights In The World: among whom you appear as lights in the world, Lights - luminaries, the stars. Christians should be marked by separation from the world, not by isolation from it. **Matthew 5:14-16, let your light shine**
John 8:12

Philippians 2:16 Word Bearers:

holding fast to offer, to make available.

Means not just to hold fast to oneself, but also to hold out the light to others.

John 6:68

so that in the day of Christ

This is the return of Jesus Christ for His Church, the rapture

Reason: I will have reason to glory

Paul wanted to rejoice over what his ministry had accomplished in lives on that day.

Reason: because I did not run (energetic activity) **in vain nor toil** (labor) **in vain.**

3. Verses 17-18 Joyful:

Philippians 2:17 But - Paul has been speaking about us **living out the horizontal life through vertical power.**

Sacrificial Service: even if I am being poured out The term **poured out** means "*offered, offering*" it is speaking about Paul's imminent martyrdom.

a drink offering – Numbers 15:1-10 willing sacrifice for the believers. **2 Timothy 4:6**

"sacrifice" Jewish rite of the burnt offering,

and service of your faith, service - which translates as "*liturgy*" - helping others is actually a spiritual service. The term is a sacred ritual or form of worship.

I rejoice - Which is the theme of this letter. **Joy – 13 times, Glad – 13 times, Rejoice – 10 times**

share my joy

The word **Joy** - "*I congratulate myself,*" "*I count myself privileged.*"

with you all.

Paul was doing this for all the believers in the church.

Philippians 2:18 Adopt My Attitude: I urge you, rejoice in the same way

and share your joy with me.

(Reciprocal) Paul's joy became the church's joy.

Application:

1. If I Am Not Growing In Salvation, It Is Because I don't Have It Or I Am Not Doing My Part Of Working Out What God Has Worked In.
2. Beware Of The Urge To Always Take Credit, Or To Always Take Charge.
3. When We Sacrificially Surrender Our Lives To God In Service, We Experience Joy In Meeting Jesus And Becoming Like Him Through The Things That We Suffer.