Joy In The Christian Life 1:3-8

v1 Paul and Timothy, bondservants of Jesus Christ, To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Thankfulness and Prayer
v3 *I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now,*
v6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;
v7 *just as it is right for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart, inasmuch as both in my chains and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, you all are partakers with me of grace.*
v8 For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ.

Joy is the flag which is flown from the castle of the heart, when Jesus is in residence there.

It's your ***nearness*** *to God that* ***determines*** *the* ***level*** *of your* ***joy****.*

Five Characteristics of Christian Joy

1. The Joy of Remembrance v3
Acts 2:21 *...that* ***whoever*** *calls on the name of the LORD* Shall be saved.

2. The Joy of Intercession v4
Colossians 1:9 *For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you...*
James 5:16 *Confess your trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.*
Philippians 2:3 *Let nothing be done through selfish ambition or conceit, but in lowliness of mind let each esteem others better than himself.*

3. The Joy of Partnership in the Gospel v5

4. The Joy of A Secure Salvation v6
Acts 16:30-31 *..."Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" So they said, "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved, you and your household."*
Romans 6:23 *For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.*
1 Corinthians 15:51-52 *Behold, I tell you a mystery: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.*
John 10:28 *And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.*
1 Peter 1:4-5 *to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you, who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.*

5. The Joy of Devotion vv7-8
Acts 16:31 *Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and you will be saved...*