

Pure Joy: A Grateful Pastor (Philippians 4)

1. Paul's Expression of Love (vs.1-9)

- A. My _____ brethren
1. Beloved – Gk. brings the deepest, strongest and fullest word for love
 2. Whom I long for – he had an intense longing to see them and be with them, he loved them!
 3. My joy – not his circumstances; under arrest, being slandered, but the church itself
- B. My fellow _____ in the gospel
1. Some are fighting, but it doesn't change his love for them
 2. They had a deep love for one another because of partnering in the gospel. **1:3-9; 4:15**
- C. Rejoice in the Lord _____ – though you are suffering and struggling, know that you are loved and I exhort you to find your joy in the Lord always, in doing this...
- *4:4-7** – simply do what this says!
- D. A grateful pastor – I thank the Lord for you, my beloved and my joy!

2. Paul's Example of Contentment (vs.10-13)

- A. Paul was content no matter the _____ – a lot or just a little (**vs.12**)
1. Confident in God's Providence; lived by faith in God's Provision; and was consumed with the needs of others – can't be content when focused on self
 2. What was his secret? **See vs.13!!!**
***His power came from Christ! *2Cor12:9-10**
- B. **Notice:** Paul _____ the secret!
1. I told you of our 10 plagues home in PA and how I was convicted when I said I hated it; **but we** have lived in others' basements with all our kids; **in an elderly woman's** home; a home so **plagued with mold**, Ruth was severely sick while pregnant with Mark, and on and on
 2. I was **NOT** always content! I have had to learn that!
 3. **See 4:10** ...your concern

3. Paul's Encouragement in Giving (vs.14-23)

- A. Your giving is actually an act or _____ to the Lord! (**4:17,18**) – **look at both of these verses!**
1. A pleasing, acceptable, fragrant offering to God! (**vs.18**)
 2. Treasure in heaven; God keeps an account! **Vs.17! (Matt.6:19-24)**
- B. When we give _____ to the work of the biblical gospel in and through this church – to the world; God promises to supply all of our needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus! (**4:19**)
1. **Example:** Myerstown using this passage as get out of debt plan
 2. Look at God's faithfulness to us in this church!
 3. God will supply your needs too! **Matthew6:33; Luke6:38**
- C. God provides as we _____ – to His glory! ***see 4:20!!! and 1Chronicles29:9-14!!!**
1. **Ex:** Heading to Baton Rouge after Hurricane Katrina; all on faith!
 2. God is sovereign over all; wealth and provision are in His hands – live for His glory!!!