

**Series:** Philippians: That We May Know Him X

**Text:** Philippians 4:2-9

**HI: Peace in Christ gives us reason to rejoice.**

**Title:** *The Beginning of the End*

**Hook:** Crescendo

**Date:** 11.12.23

**Purpose:** To call God's people to rejoice in the peace we have in Christ.

**FCF:** Like the Philippians, we deal with disunity, anxiety, and the internal war for peace. The God of peace graciously provides Christ, and his nearness gives us reason to rejoice.

**COR:** We all know the struggle of inter-personal conflict and internal anxiety. The message of Christ, and the peace he offers, provides a way to joy in a world of pain.

**Witness of Christ [WC\*]:** "In the Lord" is the consistent refrain of Philippians. This shows us what is available in union with Jesus. When we have Christ, we have a security that brings us joy and peace. Christ assures us that God is with us.

**Apologetic:** Intro: if you've ever struggled in relationships or dealt with anxiety or wondered where God is, there's good news for you today. "Book of life" → there is a security in Christ that provides his people with joy and peace. The gospel invites you, as a sinner, to receive forgiveness and new life in Jesus.

**Text Tone:** Encouragement

**Preaching Voice:** Prophetic

**Form:** Deductive

**Call to Worship:** Philippians 1:27

**Benediction:** Philippians 2:1

**Outline:**

**I. Life in Christ leads us to unity. (2-3)**

A. The gospel produces big picture people. (2-3)

**II. Joy in the Lord springs from our security. (4-7)**

A. With Jesus, joy is an always thing. (4)

B. Near Jesus, we find a gentle spirit. (5)

C. In Christ, worry about nothing, pray about everything. (6-7)

**III. Peace with God gives us a new mentality. (8-9)**

A. We think differently. (8)

## B. We live differently. (9)

### **Main Idea:**

Subject: How does Paul's appeal for unity, joy, reasonableness, prayer, and virtue lead to peace for God's people?

Complement: Christ

Exegetical Idea: Through Christ, Paul's appeal for unity, joy, reasonableness, prayer, and virtue lead to peace for God's people.

Theological Idea: God's people find peace through Christ, and reason to rejoice.

**Homiletical Idea: Peace in Christ gives us reason to rejoice.**

### **Introduction:**

READ Philippians 4:2-9

<sup>2</sup>I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in the Lord. <sup>3</sup>Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

**HI: Peace in Christ gives us reason to rejoice.**

RE-READ Philippians 4:2-3

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## **I. Life in Christ leads us to unity. (2-3)**

### A. The gospel produces big picture people. (2-3)

READ Philippians 4:4-7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

## **II. Joy in the Lord springs from our security. (4-7)**

Reasonableness: “Gentleness”

“Anxious” = “to be pulled apart”

J.A. Bengel: ‘Anxiety and prayer are more opposed to each other than fire and water.’

RE- READ Philippians 4:8-9

<sup>8</sup>Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me—practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

## **III. Peace with God gives us a new mentality. (8-9)**

Motyer: “The ‘God of peace’ is the God who makes peace between himself and sinners. Thus peace is linked with God’s work of salvation.”

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