



Joy Ride

THE BOOK OF JAN
PHILIPPIANS

Joy In Need

Church At Philippi

- First Christian church in Europe (~50, 51 AD)
- Planted during Paul's second missionary journey
- Most generous church in all the New Testament
- Model for the Corinthian church

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

- And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity. For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us

**A biblical view of money,
wealth, finances shapes a heart
of generosity**

Philippians 4:10-13

- I rejoiced greatly in the Lord that at last you renewed your concern for me. Indeed, you were concerned, but you had no opportunity to show it. ¹¹ I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. ¹² I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty.

Philippians 4:10-13

- I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. ¹³ I can do all this through Him who gives me strength.

Contentment

- Opposite of contentment is coveting
- Coveting leads to bad stewardship
- Being joyful starts with being content

- "...for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Cor 9:7)

Good Stewardship

- Picture of good stewardship:
 - Luke 16 (parable of dishonest manager)
 - Luke 19 (parable of the talents)
- Good steward is someone who is faithful with what was given to them

**If we're faithful, God entrusts us
and gives us more!**

Godly Character

- Life experiences proven this to be true
- Not prosperity gospel
- Good steward is about character
- Bible: Godly character? God prospers!
 - Faithful / Wise / Diligent / Generous

Philippians 4:14-16

- Yet it was good of you to share in my troubles.
¹⁵ Moreover, as you Philippians know, in the early days of your acquaintance with the gospel, when I set out from Macedonia, not one church shared with me in the matter of giving and receiving, except you only; ¹⁶ for even when I was in Thessalonica, you sent me aid more than once when I was in need.

2 Corinthians 8:1-6

- And now, brothers and sisters, we want you to know about the grace that God has given the Macedonian churches. **2 In the midst of a very severe trial, their overflowing joy and their extreme poverty welled up in rich generosity.** 3 For I testify that they gave as much as they were able, and even beyond their ability. Entirely on their own, 4 they urgently pleaded with us for the privilege of sharing in this service to the Lord's people. 5 And they exceeded our expectations: They gave themselves first of all to the Lord, and then by the will of God also to us.

Stewardship in Need

- Severe trial
 - Being persecuted, killed
- Overflowing Joy
 - Joy not an emotion, spirit-filled steadiness that influences emotion
- Extreme Poverty
 - If we're faithful, God trusts us with more
 - Counting on that promise

Philippians 4:17-18

- Not that I desire your gifts; what I desire is that more be credited to your account. ¹⁸ I have received full payment and have more than enough. I am amply supplied, now that I have received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent. They are a fragrant offering, an acceptable sacrifice, pleasing to God.

Bible Teaches About Money

- Over 800 times in Scripture
- 25% of Jesus' teachings
- Tithe (10%)
 - Acknowledge 100% from God
 - Not just OT
 - Jesus confirms the tithe (Matt 23:23)
- Our giving is worship!

Do you worship your money?

or

Do you worship with your money?

Philippians 4:19

- And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of His glory in Christ Jesus

God Is A Giver

- False gods are takers
- Our God is a giver
 - Jesus
 - Exchanges at the cross
 - Holy Spirit
 - Church
 - Bible
 - Skills / Talents / Abilities

Philippians 4:20

- To our God and Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen

**We glorify God when we mirror
Him to the World around us**

Philippians 4:21-22

- Greet all God's people in Christ Jesus. The brothers and sisters who are with me send greetings. ²² All God's people here send you greetings, **especially those who belong to Caesar's household.**

Philippians 4:23

- The **grace** of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

2 Corinthians 8:1-5

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Grace

- Because of God's grace
 - Good stewardship
 - Contentment
 - Mirroring God
- Grace is God's power operating in us and through us

Book of Philippians

- Constant joy in EVERY circumstance
- Joy is to be found living in relationship with God the father...your Dad
- God is not using you, He is including you!



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