



Chapter Three

Joy in the Church

Mindsets that contribute to Joy in the Church & the Ministry

Chapter 1- **Single Mind:**

For Me to Live is Christ to die is gain

Chapter 2 - **Submitted Mind:**

Mind of Christ the humble servant

Chapter 3 - **Sharp Mind**

Chapter 4 - **Settle Mind**

Mindsets that contribute to Joy in the Church & the Ministry

Chapter 1 - Single Mind

Chapter 2 - Submitted Mind

Chapter 3 - Sharp Mind

Philippians

**A Call to Walk in the simplicity of
Biblical Spiritual Maturity**

**Distractions, Selfishness, Lack of
Gospel living, disunity, legalism,
apathy, mind on earthly things
rather than the Spirit rob the
believer & the church of True Joy.**

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- (v1) Rejoice **IN** the Lord
 - Hit & miss with feelings or circumstances
- No trouble for Paul to remind them of the fundamentals = Safety for them against Dogs & Dung!
 - CFP - How does every coach answer the sideline interviewers? **fundamentals**
- Warning concerning Judaizers
 - Christ + = Jesus & grace not enough

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- (v1) Need to be circumcised...begin following the law to be a Christian
- See righteousness & salvation through works - See Galatians(Paul says emasculate selves) & Romans(law cannot make righteous)
- Legalism says you can be right with God through religious rituals & ceremonies... your works - can even make you a super Christian!

"[25] For circumcision indeed is of value if you obey the law, but if you break the law, your circumcision becomes uncircumcision. [26] So, if a man who is uncircumcised keeps the precepts of the law, will not his uncircumcision be regarded as circumcision? [27] Then he who is physically uncircumcised but

Romans 2:25-29 | ESV

keeps the law will condemn you who have the written code and circumcision but break the law. [28] For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. [29] But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by

Romans 2:25-29 | ESV

the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God."

**"[20] For I tell you, unless your
righteousness exceeds that of the
scribes and Pharisees, you will
never enter the kingdom of heaven."**

Matthew 5:20 | ESV

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- What you won't see in most false religions or teachings...Joy...cause add so many things, most of which is unattainable...
- We are Circ./True Believers
 1. Rejoice IN the Lord - in what He has done and accomplished not in our accomplishments & greatness.
 2. Worship By the Spirit (see John 4:24) - Won't be a lot of ME in it
 3. Put NO Confidence in the flesh

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- Paul says I used to trust in this stuff
 1. Circ. 8th day = Spiritual Parents
 2. Tribe of Benjamin = Rachel's child, 1st King of Is., Stuck with Judah in the split
 3. Legit pedigree & DNA
 4. A Pharisees - highest religious standing & education
 5. So zealous for God = I killed people!
 6. Blameless in my religious conviction

"[18] For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out."

Romans 7:18 | ESV

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- Today - I realize it was all rubbish = Dung
 - What I thought were heavenly credits or deposits I realize were only debits because the Kingdom of God has a completely different economy
 - It was a total loss and I was lost!
 - Rich Young Ruler - asked Jesus what must I do?
- Know = intimately, personally, experience

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- You will never know the power of the gospel or real intimacy with Christ until you realize that Christ's righteousness is worth more than you own causing you to lose your life and all that **YOU** think your life should be = old nature & thinking
 - If you don't - old life will trip you up!
 - God doesn't do remodels
- Resurrection doesn't happen without death

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- Paul is seems to be saying the path to resurrection is suffering & death...it's so powerful that it's worth "any means"
 - Realize any suffering we endure..like the death of our old nature is nothing compared to what Christ has done
- Paul not claiming perfection or that he has it all figured out - like these judaizers
- "Press on" - terms used in regard to a sprinter giving it all he's got

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- Paul forgetting past failures & accomplishments - God has called us to something heavenly(upward)!
- This way of thinking, mindset - not optional for the mature believers - Paul is confident before God in what he is saying
- Hold true - meaning don't go back to those miserable, ignorant things you did before
- Keep your eyes on Jesus and those who follow Him whole heartedly

Chapter 3: Sharp Mind

- Again watch out for those who walk as enemies of the cross(gospel) - people who want to continue to feed their fleshly, worldly appetites...money, power, position, selfish ambition and vain glory, etc.
- Those who don't act like heaven's citizens
- Our citizenship, Christ's Lordship & promise to return should affect our way of life and mindset dramatically
- Stand firm against world's lifestyle & mind

Final Thought

How to Stay Sharp!

2 Peter 1:3-15

Some Marks of Christian Maturity

- ▶ Rejoice IN the Lord & what he has done
- ▶ They stick to/practice fundamentals of the Gospel, standing firm against other things
- ▶ Put no confidence in the flesh - Counting the earthly things loss
- ▶ Seek to KNOW Christ not just intellectually & theologically, but personally & Intimately
- ▶ Pursue the call of God intensely without looking back or reverting back = Team Jesus
- ▶ Act as heavenly citizens = new culture

Question we need to ask....

- ▶ Am I rejoicing in Christ accomplishments or your accomplishments?
- ▶ Have I truly lost myself in Christ?
- ▶ Am I still pressing on in my walk or living in past victories or past sin & shame? Am I going backwards?
- ▶ What fresh work is Christ doing in me today?
- ▶ Is my mind set more on earthly things or the things of Christ and the Spirit? "upward call"
- ▶ What citizenship is more important?