Philippians 1: 3-8

- Last week we looked at the 2nd aspect of the fruit of the Spirit, which is "joy"
 - We found
 - That joy is not based on circumstances
 - Paul mentions his "imprisonment" 4 times
 - Joy is mentioned 16 times in this short letter
 - A letter which was written 10 years after.....
 - Paul mentions Christ Jesus or similar titles
 - 60 times in this short letter

- Today, we want to discover the foundation of joy
- Phil 1: 3-8
 - In this passage we will find 3 things to discuss
 - Vs 3.....remembrance
 - Vs 6....confidence
 - Vs 6...."until the day of Christ Jesus"
- Question.....
 - What is the main thrust of this opening section?
 - It is how to live joyously in trying times

- A short background of Philippi
 - Acts 16: 9-10
 - Acts 16: 11-15
 - Philippi is a Roman colony (vs 12)
 - Paul and Silas are here to minister the gospel
 - How do we know this?
 - Vs 13.....on the Sabbath day
 - No Synagogue is mentioned????
 - Acts 18: 2
 - Place of prayer (place of oratories)

- Remember our title..."He who began a good work"
 - Vs 14.....the Lord opened her heart
 - Vs 30.....what must I do to be saved?
- Acts 13: 44-48
 - Pisidian Antioch
 - "appointed" refers to Vs 47 (Isa 42: 6; Isa 9: 6)
 - Acts 13: 52....."continually filled with joy"
 - Paul is "remembering" how the Holy Spirit
 - "Began a good work in you" (Phil 1: 6)
 - Salvation is a work of God

- Vs 6...Confidence.....
 - Of what?
 - That what the Holy Spirit has begun....
 - He will complete/perfect it
- Paul is not looking at the trials going on
 - Rather he is looking for the "completion"
 - Paul is also saying
 - I have full confidence in the Holy Spirit will do this
 - Why is that important for us to know?

- •Rom 7: 14-24; Psalm 42
 - Here is a man who is miserable as a believer
 - Vs 1-2.....I want the things of God desperately
 - Vs 3.....I am so depressed with my life all I can do is cry
 - Vs 4.....I remember when things were good
 - I was in fellowship, joy and thanksgiving
 - Vs 5.....speaking to his inner man (talking to himself)
 - Why are you so sad with your life?
 - Why am I so restless?

- Psa 42
 - Vs 6.....I remember all that You have done
 - Vs 7..... Just like waves that smash into me
 - Trouble comes again and again
 - I can't get out of it
 - Vs 8.....Your songs are with me in the night
 - Vs 9.....God why don't You care about me?
 - Vs 10.....what's the use in being a Christian?
 - Vs 11.....l am in despair
 - Vs 11.....He is the help of my countenance

- This Psalm describes a person who can only see faults in others, in the church and in themselves.
- Paul describes his life in Christ
- •II Cor 11: 23-28
- •So how could Paul write about joy?
 - He is chained to a prison guard
 - II Tim 4: 7-8

- A personal note
 - How can you handle being a minister?
 - Rom 14: 12
 - There is something I must always remember
 - I am not responsible for your life
 - I am not responsible for your choices in life
 - I am not responsible for your salvation
 - I am responsible to preach to you the Gospel
 - Rev 14: 6-7
 - Fear God......Give Him glory(admiration)

- Until the day of Christ Jesus
 - There may be some confusion on this title
- Day of the Lord
 - Zephaniah 1: 14-17
 - Rev 6: 12-17
 - Whether in the O.T. or N.T. this day is described as a day of judgment for sinners
- •So then why does Paul use the term "day of Christ"?

- What is the difference
 - First.....Paul is addressing Christians
 - Vs 9....."real knowledge and discernment"
 - Vs 10....."those who are sincere and blameless"
 - Vs 11....."filled with the fruit of righteousness"
 - I Cor 1: 4-9; I Peter 2: 9-12
 - Second....the day of Christ is a day of blessing
 - I Thess 1: 9-10
 - I Thess 5: 8-11
 - Third....a day of joy
 - Rom 8: 37-39.....
 - Rom 8: 18-25......

•I'd rather have Jesus than silver or gold I'd rather be His than have riches untold I'd rather have Jesus than houses or land I'd rather be led by His nail-pierced hand

 Than to be the king of a vast domain And be held in sin's dread sway I'd rather have Jesus than anything This world affords today

•I'd rather have Jesus than worldly applause I'd rather be faithful to His dear cause I'd rather have Jesus than worldwide fame Yes, I'd rather be true to His holy name

 Than to be the king of a vast domain And be held in sin's dread sway I'd rather have Jesus than anything This world affords today

Billy Olson

- Your lonely days are long
- You wanna sing your song
- About how the good life has come and gone
- How it all passed you by
- You want to sit down and cry
- •And only wonder why?

- There's coming a day
- When it will all pass away
- And every eye will see the coming Son
- Patiently wait and finish the race
- And know the battle will be won

- Hatred and sword
- Rumors and war
- What are they killing for?
- Anger and pride
- Oh, must pick a side
- But there's no place to hide

- There's coming a day
- When it will all pass away
- And every eye will see the coming Son
- Patiently wait and finish the race
- And know the battle will be won

- He will wipe away every tear
- No need to fear
- When troubled times come near

- There's coming a day
- When all the stars will fall
- And every eye will see the coming Son
- Patiently wait and finish the race
- And know the battle will be won