

Joy in any Circumstance

Philippians 2:1-2

Rejoicing Despite...

- Circumstances getting here have been terrible
- Imprisonment and competition--Gospel is preached
- Caught between living example and peace of heaven
- Real and threatened suffering--it is all for Christ!
- Not only believing in Christ but suffering for Him
- Paul is a model of suffering past and present
- How can Paul do this? Therefore...



Philippians 1:27-30

27 Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel; in no way alarmed by your opponents—which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God.

29 For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.



Philippians 2:1-2

1 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, If there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose.

Any Encouragement in Christ

- Paul sets his mind on the comfort of Christ
- par-ak'-lay-sis comfort, consolation, solace, entreaty
- Root of the word in John in the upper room discourse
- Comfort from Christ certainly! Holy Spirit!
- Also comfort through members of Christ's Body

Any Consolation in Love

- Paul sets his mind on the consolation in Love
- *par-a-mu-thi-on*: persuasive address of love
- Love can be quite persuasive!
- In his suffering he recalls the love expressed for him
- Love can soften all blows, encourage to greatness
- God's Love puts things in their proper perspective

Any Fellowship of the Spirit

- Paul sets his mind on the family of Christ
- koy-nohn-ee'-ah partnership
- Paul is encouraged--his family strives with him
- He concerns himself with their welfare
- He prays for and encourages them while in prison!

Any Affection and Compassion

- Paul Sets his mind on the deep seated compassion
- *splangkh'-non* spleen intestines guts, seat of emotion
- Not condescending pity!
- Pity of one who has been where you are now
- Christ! Biblical Heroes! Brothers and sisters!
- Knowing people know what you are going through

Make my Joy Complete

- By busting me out of here! Petitioning Ceaser?
- Parents joy when their kids are getting along!
 - Being of the same mind
 - Maintaining the same love
 - United in spirit
 - Intent on one purpose
- Love each other and be about the business of Christ!