

**Philippians 4:4: “Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, rejoice”**

Know that Paul was writing this epistle from his prison cell, and he was STILL encouraging believers. Let this ALWAYS be who we are in Christ!

Philippians 1:3-7, 3:1, Psalm 33:1, 94:19

Paul rejoiced and was full of joy in his prayers for the believing brethren and for the continued preaching of the gospel. If Paul could rejoice in his prison cell; can't we, who have it MUCH easier? But here's the key: REJOICE in the LORD! Do we know how to do that? Are we rejoicing daily in the Lord! *Habakkuk 3:17*

**Philippians 4:5: “Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand”**

Moderation SHOULD be what is seen IN YOU by others. Moderation meaning your patience and gentleness; but also, that you are able by God's grace to govern and restrain your passions.

Colossians 3:15: “And let the peace of God rule (or govern) your hearts”

You don't panic when calamities come; but you have a meek and quiet disposition of submission to God in whatever He brings into your life. When difficulties/trials arise, you say within yourself, “it is the Lord”; “not my will, but thine be done”.

Paul goes on to say: “The Lord is at hand”; that is, He is a VERY present Help in time of trouble. READ the entire Psalm!

**Philippians 4:6: “Be careful (or anxious) for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus”**

Do not be anxious for ANYTHING! We've all been surrounded with a lot of anxiety and fear lately; no doubt we've probably had some anxiety ourselves.

Here is where the “realness” of our faith in Christ OUGHT to be fully engaged in trusting in the Lord! But when everything is going well in our lives, and we are “fairing sumptuously every day” we are all so prone to NOT walk by faith.

The truth is, we are so often NOT dependent upon our God for our lives! But if we WERE walking by faith on a daily basis; NOW & TODAY would not be so different and so difficult! Remember the Words of our Lord: *Matthew 6:19-24*

**You see it's all a matter of storehouses: Where is your storehouse? Where are you laying up treasure?**

Are you making daily spiritual deposits in heaven? Are you solidifying your citizenship there? Are you laying up and amassing treasure there? Are you strengthening yourself and your faith in Christ with each passing day?

*Matthew 13:44-46*

Now that you've found that treasure hid in the field & that pearl of great price, are you selling all that you have to get that field and that pearl?

If you're not making daily and substantial deposits in heaven; strengthening and increasing your faith in Christ; when the time comes that you need to make a large withdrawal of faith, you don't want to be found NSF; not sufficient faith!

*But building up yourselves on your most holy faith!*

And so, lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven! Fill the storehouse of heaven! Where you treasure is, THERE will your HEART be also!

**“Be NOT anxious about ANYTHING; but in EVERYTHING by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God”**

And God will supply you with the peace!

Romans 14:17, Isaiah 26:3

Philippians 4:8-23

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

10 But I rejoiced in the Lord greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

11 Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

14 Notwithstanding ye have well done, that ye did communicate with my affliction.

15 Now ye Philippians know also, that in the beginning of the gospel, when I departed from Macedonia, no church communicated with me as concerning giving and receiving, but ye only.

16 For even in Thessalonica ye sent once and again unto my necessity.

17 Not because I desire a gift: but I desire fruit that may abound to your account.

18 But I have all, and abound: I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things which were sent from you, an odour of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, wellpleasing to God.

19 But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

20 Now unto God and our Father be glory for ever and ever. Amen.

21 Salute every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren which are with me greet you.

22 All the saints salute you, chiefly they that are of Caesar's household.

23 The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. Amen.