

HOW TO REJOICING IN EVERY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCE

Philippians 4:1-9

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IV. REJOICING THAT BRINGS GREAT REWARD

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HOW TO REJOICING IN EVERY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCE

Philippians 4:1-9

I. REJOICE BY **STANDING** FAST IN EVERY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCE

Philippians 4:1 Therefore, my brethren dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, *my* dearly beloved.

A. Paul's admonition to **rejoice** in every difficult circumstance

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice.

1. Rejoice through your **worries** by means of **hope** and

trust

Philippians 4:6 Be **careful** for nothing;

a. The word **careful** means to not be full of care, to be **anxious** or **worry**. To be anxious has the idea of being pulled in different directions and to worry has the idea of being strangled.

b. This word literally means: stop worrying immediately

2. Rejoice through God's promised **rewards** for standing fast

Philippians 4:5 Let your **moderation** be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. (*moderation: forbearing spirit*)

a. Rejoice in the strength that Christ gives you to stand fast

Php 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

Ephesians 6:10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

b. Rejoice in the privilege that you have to stand for Christ

Philippians 1:29 For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

Revelations 2:10 Fear none of those things which thou shalt suffer: behold, the devil shall cast some of you into prison, that ye may be tried; and ye shall have tribulation ten days: be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life. (Willingness to die for Him)

1Peter 3:14 But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled;

1Peter 4:16 Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf.

B. Paul encourages us to stand strong knowing the Lord is Coming

1. Rejoice in the fact that you are standing ready for His coming

Matthew 24:44 Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh.

2. Rejoice in the fact that you will be commended for standing

Matthew 25:21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

II. REJOICE BY PRAYING IN EVERY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCE

A. Asking God, the giver of all good things

B. Praying urgently to God with a broken and beseeching heart

1. Much of the time this type of prayer involves fasting

2. This is a prayer of agony (*Hannah's prayer* - 1 Sam. 1:9-15)

C. Thanking God for who He is and for what He is going to do

III. REJOICE BY THINKING RIGHT IN EVERY DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCE

Wrong thinking leads to wrong feeling, wrong thinking and feelings leads to wrong actions. Dr. Walter Cavert reported a survey on worry that indicated that only 8 percent of the things people worried about were legitimate matters of concern! The other 92 percent were either imaginary, never happened, or involved matters over which the people had no control anyway. (Wiersbe)

A. Thinking on things that are true: *the Spirit of truth is our guide*

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth:

B. Thinking on things that are honest: *worthy of respect; respectable*

Luke 8:15 But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

C. Thinking on things that are just: *righteous*

D. Thinking on things that are pure: *morally pure in thought*

Tit 1:15 Unto the pure all things are pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving is nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled.

E. Thinking on things that are lovely: *beautiful,*

F. Thinking on things that are of good report: *acceptable to the Lord*

Psalms 19:14 Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

G. Thinking on things that are virtuous: *moral good leading to praise*

H. Thinking on things that are praise worthy: *encouraging to others*

IV. REJOICING THAT BRINGS GREAT REWARD

A. The reward of peace that passes all understanding

Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 26:3 “Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee: because he trusteth in Thee”

B. The God of peace has promised to be with us

Philippians 4:9 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.

John 14:27 Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

Conclusion: How are you going to face the difficult circumstances of life, health problems, the death of a loved one, the loss of a job, the destruction of your property such as we see with the floods in Louisiana, the betrayal of a friend or family member, hatred for your belief in Christ, people attacking you at the work place? Are you going to handle things through your own strength, your own wisdom or are you going to depend on the Lord Jesus Christ and claim ***Philippians 4:13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*** If you're not saved you are not guaranteed the provision of God's children, His family. You are going to have to make it on your own. Let's change that today by you getting saved if you are not saved or getting right with God if you are a Christian and away from the Lord.