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Where Everybody is Somebody
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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

BUT IN EVERY THING BY PRAYER AND SUPPLICATION WITH THANKSGIVING
LET YOUR REQUEST BE MADE KNOWN UNTO GOD

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.
SUNDAY MORNING NOVEMBER 24, 2019
SCRIPTURE READING: **PHILIPPIANS 4:1-10**

Philippians 4:4-7, Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. **5**: Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. **6**: Be careful for nothing; **but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.** **7**: And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

1. **BACKGROUND**

Refer to the Evening message November 24,2019

2. **INTRODUCTION**

- a. Let's review some of the history with respect to Thanksgiving, which we will celebrated on Thursday. Many competing claims exist; the most familiar story of the first Thanksgiving took place in Plymouth Colony, in present-day Massachusetts, in 1621.
- b. Sarah Josepha Hale petitioned for a national Thanksgiving holiday for close to 40 years, believing that Thanksgiving, like the Fourth of July, should be considered a national festival and observed by all our people.
- c. President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed the last Thursday in November 1863 as "A day of thanksgiving and praise to our Heavenly Father."
- d. Each year afterward for 75 years, the President of the United States formally proclaimed that Thanksgiving Day should be celebrated on the last Thursday of November. But then the ugly face of liberalism, humanism, and secularism began to show its destructive force on the public scene. In 1939 President Franklin D. Roosevelt set Thanksgiving one week earlier. Reason? He wanted to help businesses by lengthening the shopping period before Christmas. Congress finally ruled in 1941 that the fourth Thursday of November would be observed as Thanksgiving Day and would be a legal federal holiday.
- e. **The point I want to make is this: the original reason for those first Puritan settlers to celebrate a Thanksgiving Day was to give thanks to Almighty God for His goodness, grace and bountiful provision.** Today it has become just another government holiday for people to have an excuse to get out of work, and to start their Christmas shopping sooner.

- f. **But every Christian should know and realize that the Preserved Word of God does tell us to set aside time to give thanks to Almighty God for His great and fantastic blessings to each one of us. I Thessalonians 5:16-18; Rejoice evermore 17: Pray without ceasing. 18: In every thing give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.** Charles Haddon Spurgeon (1834-1892), the great 19th century pastor and Bible teacher writes, concerning this passage: "I have not always found it easy to practice this duty, this I confess to my shame. When suffering extreme pain some years ago, a brother in Christ said to me, 'Have you thanked God for this?' I replied that I desired to be patient, and would be thankful to recover, 'But,' said he, 'In everything give thanks, not after it is over, but while you are still in it, and perhaps when you are enabled to give thanks for the severe pain, it will cease.' I believe there was much wisdom in that good advice."
- g. **Ephesians 5:20, Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;**
- h. **Colossians 2:7, Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving. There is a relationship between your consistent learning and application of Bible doctrine and your attitude of thanksgiving toward God. In other words, maximum knowledge of the Word of God gives you the capacity for gratitude.**
- i. **Colossians 1:10-12, That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; 11: Strengthened with all might, according to his glorious power, unto all patience and longsuffering with joyfulness; 12: Giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light:**
- j. **2 Corinthians 9:15, Thanks be unto God for his unspeakable gift.** God's indescribable gift is Jesus Christ, the Saviour of mankind. Our Royal High Priest, our King of kings, and Lord of lords. And this verse is found at the end of Paul's dissertation on financial giving, and thankfulness to those believers who gave to support the work of the Lord.
- k. **Psalms 100:4, Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name**
- l. Thanksgiving is to be a function of our prayers. **Ephesians 1:16, Cease not to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my prayers;**
- m. **Colossians 1:3, We give thanks to God and the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you,**
- n. **Colossians 4:2, Continue in prayer, and watch in the same with thanksgiving;**
- o. **Philippians 4:6, Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**
- p. **All true thanksgiving is based on the knowledge and application of the Preserved Word of God. All true happiness is based on the knowledge and application of His Preserved Word.**
- q. As we approach this outstanding "prison epistle," we immediately notice in **Chapter one**, the philosophy for Christian living laid out by the Apostle Paul for the Philippians
- r. In **Chapter two** we notice there is the pattern for Christian living.
- s. Paul emphatically tells us we have to have the mind of Christ.
- t. In addition, we see there is a prize for Christian living.
- u. In **Chapter three of this Book**, we see after we are saved all of our works is for our rewards at the Judgment Seat of Christ. **2 Corinthians 5:10, For we must all appear**

before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad.

v. Today we are looking at the power for Christian living.

w. There are several sources of this power.

1. **Joy** - explained in **Philippians 4:4**, Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice. **Nehemiah 8:10**, Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength. **There is no power if there is no joy.**
2. **Prayer** - **Philippines 4:6**, Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.
 - a. Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. **Romans 10:17**, So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
 - b. We are admonished by God the Father, the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit to let our request be made known with thanksgiving.
 - c. This is not a leap in the dark or a call demanding things from God, but **prayer is an essential part of what the Christian life is all about if we are to have power in our life.**
3. **Sanctuary**- (Generally a place where one worships) **Philippians 4:8**, 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.**
 - a. We are told in Scripture to renew our mind as we become more Christ like. **Romans 12:2**, And be not conformed to this world: but be ye **transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.
 - b. We are to be conformed to the image of God's Son. **Romans 8:29**, For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.
 - c. We are not predestinated to be saved, or predestinated to be lost, but after salvation we are predestinated to be conformed to the image of the Son of God. **Romans 8:29**, For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. **Ephesians 1:5**, Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will, **Ephesians 1:11**, In whom also we have obtained an inheritance, **being predestinated according to the purpose of him who worketh all things after the counsel of his own will:**
4. **Satisfaction** - is the last source of power in Christian living we will deal with this issue this evening as we look **Philippians 4:11-19**. **Philippians 4:11**, Not that I speak in respect of want: **for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.**

3. TEN POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

a. **Stand fast in the Lord my dearly beloved.**

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

2. Paul wrote this Epistle to thank the Church and express his love towards them; he had no doctrine to correct in this church as he did in the Epistle to the Galatians, neither was there any confusion of doctrine to address as had been in the Church of Corinth.
 3. Paul is expecting to receive a crown for winning the Philippian believers to Christ. **1 Thessalonians 2:19**, *For what is our hope, or joy, or crown of rejoicing? Are not even ye in the presence of our Lord Jesus Christ at his coming?*
 4. Notice they were his crown of rejoicing.
 5. He admonishes them to stand fast in the Lord.
 6. We can only stand fast when we put on the whole armour of God. **Ephesians 6:11**, *Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.*
 7. The Christian faith will produce stability in our life only when we stand fast in the Lord. **1 Corinthians 15:58**, *Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.*
- b. I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.**
1. **Philippians 4:2**, *I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.*
 2. There was only a small ripple in the stream in the Philippian church that involved two woman who were having problems, and Paul spoke to that issue not considering it a very serious matter, but he did straighten it out and challenged them to be like-minded, putting their eyes on the Lord and His Word and not the circumstance. **Philippians 4:2**, *I beseech Euodias, and beseech Syntyche, that they be of the same mind in the Lord.*
 3. We must learn in our local church to settle our differences using the mind of Christ. **Philippians 2:5**, *Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:*
 4. **Getting our eyes off of self and other petty circumstances and on to Christ will effectively build the work of God.**
 5. The blessed truth about the body of Christ is each member can be different but all one in Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:12**, *For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.*
 6. Bottom line: **We can disagree, but we don't have to hold grudges.**
- c. Help those women which laboured with me in the gospel.**
1. **Philippians 4:3**, *And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel,* with Clement also, and with other my fellowlabourers, whose names are in the book of life.
 2. **It is very apparent that women occupied prominent positions in the early church.**
 3. Paul speaks of Lydia who was his first convert in this local church.
 4. We must all understand that Godly women at Chesswood Baptist Church play a key role in the work of God.
 5. Without the ladies, I as a Pastor would be in serious trouble in trying to carry out the work God has assigned.
 6. What a blessed privilege to share in the body of Christ those who have laboured in the Gospel and whose names are written in the Book of Life.

d. **Rejoice in the Lord always.**

1. **Philippians 4:4, Rejoice in the Lord always:** and again I say, Rejoice.
2. **This is not an option for the believer; it is a commandment from our Saviour.**
3. The meaning of this verse is: whether things are dark or bright, difficult or easy, problems or clear sailing; we are commanded to rejoice.
4. Joy is something we cannot produce on our own, it is the fruit of the Spirit. **Galatians 5:22-23, But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, 23: Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.**
5. We were reminded several Sundays ago after Nehemiah had accomplished his great work in building the walls; he challenged the people to be joyful. **Nehemiah 8:10, Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.**
6. Nehemiah's procedure to obtain joy was to have Ezra read from the Word of God from morning until mid-day. **Nehemiah 8:3, And he read therein before the street that was before the water gate from the morning until midday, before the men and the women, and those that could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive unto the book of the law.**
7. **We find the key that unlocks power for the believer is joy.**
8. Joy is indeed the source of power.
9. **A beautiful, positive attitude commends Christ to an unbelieving world.**
10. We must not allow the devil to steal our joy. **Luke 8:12, Those by the way side are they that hear; then cometh the devil, and taketh away the word out of their hearts, lest they should believe and be saved.**
11. To share the words of a little song: "Down in the dumps, I'll never go that's where the devil keeps me low."
12. **Satan attempts to steal our joy because he knows it is the source of power for the believer.**

e. **The Lord is at hand.**

1. **Philippians 4:5, Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand.**
2. The secret to power is prayer; knowing that the Lord is at hand.
3. **"Letting your moderations be known unto all men"** speaks specifically of displaying a sweet attitude at all times regardless of the circumstances.
4. **This is not something we fake; but is a reflection of the Living Christ who has saved us and the sweet Holy Spirit that indwells every believer.**

f. **But in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**

1. **Philippians 4:6, Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.**
2. I believe with all my heart this verse tells us to worry about nothing. **Philippians 4:11, Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.**
3. We learned in **verse 4** to rejoice; in this verse **we are told to worry about nothing and to pray about everything.**

4. We are to make melody in our heart. **Ephesians 5:19**, *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord; 1 Thessalonians 5:16-17*, *Rejoice evermore. 17: Pray without ceasing.*
 5. We are to always let our request be made known unto God with thanksgiving. **1 Thessalonians 5:18**, *In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.*
- g. The peace of God, shall keep your heart and mind through Christ Jesus.**
1. **Philippians 4:7**, And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.
 2. We must remember this verse does not deal with world peace, which will only come when Jesus Christ sits on the throne of David. **Proverbs 29:2**, *When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn. Proverbs 14:34*, *Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people.*
 3. **Peace of God speaks of fellowship; Peace with God speaks of a relationship which means all of our sins have been forgiven and God has added his righteousness. Romans 5:1**, *Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Romans 3:22*, *Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:*
 4. Peace of God is tranquility. **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. John 14:1-3*, *Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me. 2: In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. 3: And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, there ye may be also. 1 John 4:18*, *There is no fear in love; but perfect love casteth out fear: because fear hath torment. He that feareth is not made perfect in love.*
 5. **Remember joy is the source of power and prayer is the secret of power.**
 6. What we think is extremely important in shaping our personality, attitude and our life.
- h. Finally brethren whatsoever things are true, think on these things.**
1. **Philippians 4:8**, 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.
 2. To truly live out the aforementioned verse, we are not to give place to the devil in our thoughts nor our actions. **Ephesians 4:25-28**, *Wherefore putting away lying, speak every man truth with his neighbour: for we are members one of another. 26: Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: 27: Neither give place to the devil. 28: Let him that stole steal no more: but rather let him labour, working with his hands the thing which is good, that he may have to give to him that needeth.*
 3. Most believers spend more time talking about the devil rather than studying the Preserved Word of God.

4. The Preserved Word of God is our Spiritual bread and meat. **John 6:35**, And Jesus said unto them, I am the bread of life: he that cometh to me shall never hunger; and he that believeth on me shall never thirst. **Jeremiah 15:16**, Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.
 5. **Our Spiritual growth is in direct relationship to how much time we spend in the Preserved Word Of God.**
 6. The Preserved Word of God has not been given for our entertainment, but for our growth. Believers today, want to be entertained.
 7. We live in a nasty, dirty world but Christ has saved us and seated us in heavenly places. **Ephesians 2:6**, And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:
 8. We all have our faults in the flesh but our eyes, thoughts, and our mind should be attuned to the perfect Lord Jesus. **Proverbs 16:2**, All the ways of a man are clean in his own eyes; but the LORD weigheth the spirits **Hebrews 7:26**, For such an high priest became us, who is holy, harmless, undefiled, separate from sinners, and made higher than the heavens;
- i. **Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do**
1. **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.
 2. God indicates in this verse that we are to practice what we have learned. **James 1:22**, But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.
 3. Christ Jesus must be the center of everything in our lives.
- j. **But I rejoice in the Lord greatly.**
1. **Philippians 4:10**, 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.
 2. Although the Apostle Paul is speaking of a local situation concerning the Philippian church, I believe there is a very unique application for our church.
 3. Paul is teaching us to rejoice in the Lord greatly.
 4. There are so many Christians who are up and down in their Christian life.
 5. One day everything is great when things are going well and the next day when things are not so well we tend to forget that God is in the same place He was when we were having our mountain top experience. **Psalms 37:23**, The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: and he delighteth in his way. **Psalms 119:133**, Order my steps in thy word: and let not any iniquity have dominion over me.
 6. He has not left us nor forsaken us; we have moved away from Him because we fail to rejoice in all things. **Hebrews 13:5**, Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee.
 7. The Bible tells us to pray without ceasing and in everything give thanks. **1 Thessalonians 5:16-18**, Rejoice evermore. 17: Pray without ceasing. 18: In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

8. The Philippian church was very much in love with the Apostle Paul and provided for his needs on many occasions. **Philippians 4:15**, *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.*
9. They are now back in touch with Paul, having lost sight of him for a two-year period.
10. The Church of Philippi lost touch after Paul was arrested in Jerusalem.
11. He was in prison for two years and they didn't hear from him again until he was transferred to the prison in Rome.
12. There, Epaphroditus was on the scene by God to bear the message to the Philippians. **Philippians 4:18**, *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.*
13. The priest in the Old Testament went into the Holy Place to place the incense on the altar and it ascended with a sweet smell.
14. The Philippian believers not only sent a donation to Paul but an offering of sweet smell to God.
15. What a beautiful gift given in the right spirit.
16. The great principle laid down in this verse is **"I rejoiced in the Lord greatly."** **Nehemiah 8:10**, *Then he said unto them, Go your way, eat the fat, and drink the sweet, and send portions unto them for whom nothing is prepared: for this day is holy unto our Lord: neither be ye sorry; for the joy of the LORD is your strength.*
17. *We need to learn how to maintain our joy in the Lord at all times.*
18. Always remember we Christians are in a glass house; people are watching our actions, they want to reaffirm over and over that we have the mind of Christ and that we have been with Him.

4. CONCLUSION

- a. Do you know the Saviour?
- b. Was there a time when you put your faith and trust in the Lord Jesus?
- c. *If you do not know Him as Saviour my friend, you cannot enter into the very presence of God.*
- d. You cannot have that joy we have talked about on a consistent basis.
- e. If you know Him and are saturated in His Word, you can receive that joy.
- f. The Bible says in **Romans 3:23**, *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*
- g. **Romans 3:10**, *As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:*
- h. **Romans 10:9-10**, *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. **10:** For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*
- i. Come to the side of the Living Saviour today.
- j. Please stand.

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