

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

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MINISTRY OF THE WORD

AND THIS I PRAY, THAT YOUR LOVE MAY ABOUND...

IN KNOWLEDGE AND IN ALL JUDGEMENT

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY MORNING, MARCH 13, 2022

SCRIPTURE READING: **PHILIPPIANS 1:1-13**

Philippians 1:9, **And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;**

1. BACKGROUND

Please refer to the March 13, 2022 Evening Message for the Background.

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. As we approach the **Book of Philippians**, I want you to keep in mind a subject from **1 Thessalonians 5:12, Brethren know them which labor among you.**
- b. I firmly believe every believer needs to make a check list of those areas each day we need to assess how we measure up with what God says. **2 Corinthians 13:5, Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?**
- c. Today I want to continue, not from the **Book of Thessalonians**, but I want to go to **Philippians** and see several things that confirm that God wants us to be very **productive believers.**
- d. I indicated several Sundays ago that there are so many believers with raggedy lives. Today we will turn to **God's philosophy** for the Christian and we will find this in **Philippians chapter 1**, where he says **Philippians 1:21, For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.**
- e. **God's philosophy** for the believer is that we reflect Christ in everything we do. We are not on our own, we are bought with a price and we are not to be disobedient. **1 Corinthians 6:20, For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Corinthians 7:23, Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.**
- f. Let's now reflect on the **pattern** that God has set forth for Christian living.
- g. As we walk through the valley of the shadow of death in this life, we will also find that God says we are to have the mind of Christ. **Philippians 2:5, Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus;** and **1 Corinthians 2:16, For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.**
- h. We know there was no sin in Jesus Christ, there was no disobedience in Him, and He came to do and accomplish the Father's will. **John 4:34, Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.**
- i. Are we about the Father's business or are we about our own agendas?
- j. **There is a prize for Christian living** and it is set forth in **Philippians 3:14, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**
- k. It is very difficult to get over to believers that we must all stand before God one of these days 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.** We will give an account for our stewardship on how faithful we were to what the Lord has called us to do.
- l. I believe God wants **joyous** Christians, as a matter of fact that leads us into the next source which

is **the power for Christian living**. There are several sources of this power.

1. **Joy** - explained in **Philippians 4:4, Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, Rejoice**. 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 to demand 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** - **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. Paul deals with this issue in **Philippians 4:10-19**.
 - m. Having summarized in this Introduction what is in this book; let's get into the meat of the message today which is contained in **Chapter 1 of Philippians**.

3. THIRTEEN POINTS TO THE MESSAGE

- a. **To all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi.**
 1. **Philippians 1:1, Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:**
 2. Paul loved Timothy. Timothy was one of the ones he led to Christ and was Paul's associate in the ministry. Paul depended on Timothy tremendously.
 3. It is amazing God gives Godly Pastors various people in the church that are so faithful and can be depended on to carry out the mission.
 4. Notice that Paul identifies himself and Timothy as **the servants of Jesus Christ**. Paul and Timothy were considered bond-slaves of the Lord Jesus Christ.
 5. They were not out there doing things on their own, they loved the Lord and made sure they reflected the things of Christ.
 6. We are told to continue stedfastly in the apostle's doctrine. **Acts 2:42, And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.**
 7. On all occasions we need to be led of the Lord before we take any action whatsoever. Sometimes this takes time. **Isaiah 40:31, But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.**
 8. **to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi,** - This is an important subject because I could not help but to be captivated by **all the saints in Christ Jesus.**
 9. He is not dealing with any particular group, Although this is addressed to the Church of Philippi it applies to ALL of us. As a matter of fact, a saint is a person who has been set-a-side for God's use. In short a born again believer.

10. Once we are saved, we are not our own – we are bought with a price. **1 Corinthians 6:20, For ye are bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's. 1 Corinthians 7:23, Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men. 1 Corinthians 6:19, What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?**
11. Notice - **in Christ Jesus** – this is very important. In order to get salvation, we must be **in Christ Jesus**. There is no other way to get into Heaven. Remember this deals with the soul of man which Jesus came to save as His First Coming. At His Second Coming He will redeem the body.
12. The Holy Spirit baptizes us into the body of Christ, He regenerates us, He indwells us and He seals us until the day of redemption (This speaks to our Glorified Body.) **Galatians 3:27, For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ. Ephesians 4:30, And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.**
13. The most important thing in this entire passage is **in Christ Jesus**.
14. Those who are not in Christ and have not the Spirit of Christ, they are none of His. **Romans 8:9, But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**
15. This is the most important word in the New Testament because if we are not **in Christ**, we are not saved.
16. Paul also addresses the fact that there were bishops and deacons in the local church.
17. They were put in place to assist in getting the Word of God out to a lost and dying world.

b. Grace be unto you.

1. **Philippians 1:2, Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ.**
2. Paul speaks of God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. Do not think for one moment that He has forgotten that there is a Trinity. They are all God and they are all the same. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. **1 John 5:7, For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.**
4. First of all, Paul deals with the word **grace**. Grace and peace are a part of God's program. In other words, we get God's grace first, which is God's unmerited favor. Grace is something that is bestowed upon those who **deserve nothing; who are unworthy**.
5. Grace always comes first. We are saved by grace. **Ephesians 2:8, For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:**
6. Then the peace of God will abide in our heart. **Colossians 3:15, And let the peace of God rule in your hearts, to the which also ye are called in one body; and be ye thankful.**
7. It is only God who can give peace; He is in fact the Prince of Peace. **Romans 5:1, Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ: Isaiah 9:6, For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.**
8. There is no question that once we are **in Christ** Jesus it is because of His grace, that God will give us peace. **Romans 5:1, Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:**

c. I thank my God upon every remembrance of you.

1. **Philippians 1:3, I thank my God upon every remembrance of you,**
2. The apostle Paul was a praying man.
3. As indicated in the Background, Paul was especially close to the Philippian Church. He knew these people and he is thanking God for every remembrance of them.
4. There are faithful workers in the Church. Pastor has no favorites, but as a matter of fact, there are some people who are so faithful to the mission and faithful to the calling. I am so thankful and it encourages me that people of this type are here at Chesswood.
5. You can call on them anytime and there are no strange looks. They are in the harness and do whatever they can in order to further the Gospel.

d. **Always in every prayer.**

1. **Philippians 1:4, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy.**
2. Paul does not say "sometimes." He was remembering the Philippian believers "***always in every prayer.***"
3. We should always be faithful to pray for our Pastor. Especially if he is giving out the Preserved Word of God. If he is not giving out the Preserved Word of God we need to pray that he will get in God's will.
4. Paul says he is ***making request with joy.*** Paul was in prison in Rome. He was probably under the worst conditions possible. However, he was a joyous person.
5. Joy appears **19** times in this epistle; however it is all about the Lord Jesus Christ who appears **40** times.
6. All Scripture is about the Lord Jesus Christ. In all of our circumstances we can be joyful. **1 Thessalonians 5:18, In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.**

e. **For your fellowship in the gospel.**

1. **Philippians 1:5, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;**
2. Paul explains why he is so joyous and why he remembers the Philippian Christians in every single prayer. It is because of their fellowship in the Gospel.
3. **We must get our eyes off of things, events, people, what someone does or doesn't do, and get our eyes on the mission, which is the Lord Jesus Christ. Philippians 3:13-14, *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, 14: I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.***
4. Believers fall into **three categories**. We need to be **spiritual communicators**, sharing the things of Christ. **Sympathetic approaches** regarding the feeling of those who work around us.
5. We need to remember that the feelings of others are just as sensitive as our own feelings. **We must be careful what we say. Ephesians 4:29, *Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers. Proverbs 25:11, A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.***
6. There should be **sweet communion**. Not only of the Lord's table, which we take every second Sunday, but it should be that we are partners with other believers and with Christ to get the Word of God out.
7. We cannot pass this verse without looking at the word, ***fellowship***. Fellowship to some is meeting in the fellowship hall and having a meal. **Fellowship should be sharing the things of Christ.** We are partners in getting the Word of God out.

f. **Being confident of this very thing.**

1. **Philippians 1:6, Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:**
2. ***he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*** - The Lord Jesus Christ is the author and the finisher of our faith. **Hebrews 12:2, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.**
3. What He has begun in us, we do not have to worry, He will continue it until the day of Jesus Christ as He calls the Bride of Christ unto Himself.
4. ***Being confident*** – What He has promised, He will perform. Those great and precious promises – God will take care of business and we don't have to worry about them. **2 Peter 1:4, Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.**

g. **Ye all are partakers of my grace.**

1. **Philippians 1:7, Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are partakers of my grace.**
2. ***Even as it is meet*** – Paul is saying, "it is right for me to think this about you because I have you in my heart."

3. It is wonderful that Christians can carry, not only the Lord Jesus Christ in our heart, but we can also carry other believers if we are willing to love unconditionally.
4. Paul talks about **in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel**. – I do not think that Paul speaks to the fact he is out staunchly defending the Gospel. He is preaching the Gospel. The Preserved Word of God is forever settled and needs no defence.
5. **1 Samuel 25:29, Yet a man is risen to pursue thee, and to seek thy soul: but the soul of my lord shall be bound in the bundle of life with the LORD thy God; and the souls of thine enemies, them shall he sling out, as out of the middle of a sling.** – Believers are all wrapped together as partners of the Gospel message.
6. Few believers understand this concept. If they did there would be less friction in the body of Christ.
7. **Friction only benefits unbelievers.** It is of no benefit to the body of the Christ.

h. For God is my record.

1. **Philippians 1:8, For God is my record, how greatly I long after you all in the bowels of Jesus Christ.**
2. Do not let the word **bowels** confuse you. It is an appropriate word in God's book. It does not mean what most think.
3. It means tender feelings. Paul has tender feelings for this church and for the Lord Jesus Christ. When we get the Word of God anchored deep within our heart, we understand that we are bought with a price and each believer should be considered as tender grapes. **Song of Solomon 2:15, Take us the foxes, the little foxes, that spoil the vines: for our vines have tender grapes.**
4. **For God is my record** – Paul knows the Lord Jesus Christ as personal Saviour, he is anchored in the Word of God and he has tender feelings for all of the saints in Christ Jesus: even the ones that might be unruly.

i. And this I pray, that your love may abound... in knowledge and in all judgment

1. **Philippians 1:9, And this I pray, that your love may abound yet more and more in knowledge and in all judgment;**
2. Our love should abound more and more.
3. We should be getting stronger as Christians every day.
4. Our love is to abound in judgment and in knowledge.
5. **Knowledge** is not Caesar's knowledge; it is knowledge of the Word of God.
6. How can we abound in knowledge if we are not under teachers that will teach us the Bible and strengthen our love for the Preserved Word of God?
7. We are also to abound in judgment. As we sharpen our wits in the Word of God, we should be more discerning. As a matter of fact, we are not overtaken near as often if we consult the Holy Spirit.

j. That ye may approve things that are excellent.

1. **Philippians 1:10, That ye may approve things that are excellent; that ye may be sincere and without offence till the day of Christ;**
2. In other words, we become sharper in the Word of God. We truly allow the Holy Spirit to rule our life.
3. We cannot live the Christ life; **we must allow the Holy Spirit to live the Christian life through us.**
4. We are to look for things that are approved by God. We must produce excellence in everything we do.
5. We must be sincere in the things we do, **without offence**. We need to be blameless. We are careful what we say and how we say it.
6. **fill the day of Christ;** - This has reference to the Lord's Second Coming.
7. We know that Jesus Christ's Second Coming is certainly imminent.

k. Being filled with the fruits of righteousness.

1. **Philippians 1:11, Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.**
2. Several Sunday ago we indicated that every believer should be displaying 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.**

3. **unto the glory and praise of God.** – God praises us when we are obedient to His will. When we are disobedience there is chastisement.

I. But I would ye should understand, brethren.

1. **Philippians 1:12, But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;**
2. God's people need to understand that the things that happen in our lives happen for a reason. **Romans 8:28, And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.**
3. Paul says, his being in jail and in bonds, had an effect on the furtherance of Gospel. How can this happen?
4. The Pastor of the Church at Philippi was dispatched to go to Paul and as a result we have the **Book of Philippians**. I thank God that He allowed Paul to get in bonds so that we could have the Gospel.
5. I believe if believers would start thinking on a positive realm, we would see that many times the things we take to be negative would be positive as far as Jesus Christ is concerned.

m. So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace.

1. **Philippians 1:13, So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places;**
2. The palace is Caesar's Palace. **Acts 28:16, And when we came to Rome, the centurion delivered the prisoners to the captain of the guard: but Paul was suffered to dwell by himself with a soldier that kept him.**
3. Paul is in chains but is receiving favour of the Lord Jesus Christ.
4. They were able to bear the name of the Lord Jesus Christ before the Gentiles and the Kings. Paul was converted but we will also see that the Gospel takes affect on the Roman citizens and in some cases, it penetrates Caesar's household.
5. The Lord's name is mentioned, and He is very much in authority.
6. The Roman government became disturbed when they discovered that the Christians were in positions of authority.
7. What a threat! **Proverbs 29:2, When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn.**
8. One of first evidences of Paul's imprisonment was that it had not hindered the furtherance of the Gospel. **Isaiah 55:11, So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.**

4. CONCLUSION

- a. Do you know the Saviour? If you do not know Jesus Christ as your personal Saviour today needs to be the day you do. **2 Corinthians 6:2, (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)**
- b. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- c. **Romans 3:10, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:**
- d. **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.**
- e. Would you please stand?

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