

JOYFUL PURSUITS
Christ Be Exalted

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Philippians 1:12-30

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Book Theme: Joyful Christian Living

Book Theme Verse: Php 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice!

Outline

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Lesson Verse: Php 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Theme: In our verses today Paul exhibits three features of the foundation of Joyful Christian Living in his passion; the proclamation of Christ, in his purpose; the exaltation of Christ and his priority for the Philippian church- the obedience to Christ

- I. Passion of Paul – Proclamation of Christ
- II. Purpose of Paul – Exaltation of Christ
- III. Priority of Paul – Obedience to Christ

I. **Passion of Paul** 12-18

- 1. Dire consequences created the opportunity for **bold proclamation** of the gospel
- 2. God’s faithfulness to protect Paul caused others to trust God and **speak courageously**
- 3. Though motives are mixed, the gospel message is proclaimed **accurately**
- 4. **Rejoice** in the proclamation of the true gospel

II. **Purpose of Paul** 19-26

- 1. Paul is confident that the Lord **will vindicate** him from his current circumstances
 - a. Intercession: Through **the prayers** of the Philippian church

- b. **Enablement: Through the provision of the Holy Spirit**
- 2. **Paul's eternal purpose was to live to exalt Christ**
- 3. **Paul's immediate purpose was to live to spiritually benefit the church**
 - a. **To help the believers in the church grow to spiritual maturity**
 - b. **To help the believers in the church experience joy in their faith**

III. Priority of Paul

27-30

- 1. **Stand firm for truth and in opposition to evil in one spirit**
- 2. **Strive together for the faith of the gospel striving together creates a unity in the church**
- 3. **Suffer for being a disciple of Christ**

IV. Application

- 1. **If you are living for yourself, to die is not gain, but eternal punishment**
 2 Pe 3:9 Heb 9:27 Jn 3:36
- 2. **Our passion is to participate of the greater progress of the gospel**
 Php 1:12 Mt 28:18–19 Ac 1:8 Lk 15:7
- 3. **Our joy comes from trusting God to use our circumstances for His glory**
 Php 1:18 Ge 50:20 Ro 8:28 Php 1:14
- 4. **Our purpose is to exalt Christ by bearing fruit in our labor**
 Php 1:22 Col 1:10 Jn 15:5 Ga 5:22–23
- 5. **Our priority is to stand firm, strive for the gospel and suffer for Christ**
 Php 1:27 Php 1:29 1 Pe 4:13