**BAPTISTWAY PRESS—PHILIPPIANS: PURE JOY: A CHOICE TO REJOICE**

**Lesson Seven —“Working Out Your Salvation” –Philippians 2:12-18; 1 Corin. 9:24-27**

**CONTEXT OF THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER TWO**

1. **AUTHOR is Paul; as this is one of Paul’s prison letters: Colossians, Ephesians, and Philemon.**  The epistle is attributed to Paul the Apostle and a co-author named Timothy, and is addressed to the Christian church in Philippi.
2. ***PURPOSE:***  Paul and Silas first visited Philippi in Greece during Paul's second missionary journey, which occurred between approximately 49 and 51 AD. In the account of his visit in the Acts of the Apostles, Paul and Silas are accused of "disturbing the city". The words “joy,” and “rejoice” occur some 16 times in the Book of Philippians. Philippians is a thank you letter to the church at Philippi for their support towards Paul over the years.
3. ***TODAY’S STUDY AIM: On last week, we learned that a truly humble person yields themselves to Christ to be a servant [60]. Today, we must understand that joy comes from submission [81].***

**QUICK READ: *God works in us through the Word, prayer, and suffering; and we work out in daily living and service. (81).***

### **A1. WORKING OUT YOUR SALVATION [PHILIPPIANS 2:12-13] (**Shining as Lights in the World) **12**Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; **13**for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

**A2. UNITY AS A SHINING EXAMPLE [PHILIPPIANS 2:14-16]**  **14**Do all things without murmuring and arguing, **15**so that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, in which you shine like stars in the world. **16**It is by your holding fast to the word of life that I can boast on the day of Christ that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

**A3. REJOICING IN THE RESULTS [PHILIPPIANS 2:17-18] 17**But even if I am being poured out as a libation over the sacrifice and the offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you— **18**and in the same way you also must be glad and rejoice with me.

**B. RUN YOUR RACE WELL [1 CORINTHIANS 9:24-27] 24**Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. **25**Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable one.

**26**So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; **27**but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

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