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

**Lesson Eight —“Servant Leadership” –Philippians 2:19-30; 1 Thessalonians 3:1-10**

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

**AUTHOR is Paul; as this is one of Paul’s prison letters: Colossians, Ephesians, and Philemon; and it was most likely written around ad 49-51; Purpose and keys in the book**

1. **In chapter 1:21,** Paul tells us that there is **Joy in Suffering with the Lord, but you have to have a single mind—“*For me to live is Christ, but to die is gain;***
2. **In chapter 2:5,** Paul tells us that there is **Joy in Serving the Lord, but you have to have a submissive mind*-- let this mind be in you, that was also in Christ Jesus***
3. **In chapter 3:14**, Paul tells us that there is **Joy in Believing in the Lord, but you have to have a spiritual mind--*****14I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus***
4. **In chapter 4:19,** Paul tells us that there is **Joy in Giving, but you have to have a secure mind--*****19But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.***

***TODAY’S STUDY AIM: O*n last week, we learned that we must understand that joy comes from submission. T*oday, we want to see what we must do to experience the Spirit reproducing, “the mind of Christ in us, especially during trying times.***

**QUICK READ: A joyful life is a life of sacrifice and service *(90).***

### **A1. SENDING AN EMISSARY [PHILIPPIANS 2:19-23] (**Timothy and Epaphroditus) **19**I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I may be cheered by news of you. **20**I have no one like him who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. **21**All of them are seeking their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ. **22But Timothy’sworth you know, how like a son with a father he has served with me in the work of the gospel.**

### **A2. RESTORATION OF REPUTATION [PHILIPPIANS 2:24-27]**  **23**I hope therefore to send him as soon as I see how things go with me; **24**and I trust in the Lord that I will also come soon. **25**Still, I think it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus—my brother and co-worker and fellow soldier, your messenger and minister to my need; **26**for he has been longing for all of you, and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill.

### **A3. WELCOME HOME [PHILIPPIANS 2:29-30] 27**He was indeed so ill that he nearly died. But God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, so that I would not have one sorrow after another. **28**I am the more eager to send him, therefore, in order that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that I may be less anxious. **29**Welcome him then in the Lord with all joy, and honor such people,  **30**because he came close to death for the work of Christ, risking his life to make up for those services that you could not give me.

**B. SHARING OF A GOSPEL CO-LABORER [1 THESSALONIANS 3:1-5]3**Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we decided to be left alone in Athens; **2**and we sent Timothy, our brother and co-worker for God in proclaiming the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and encourage you for the sake of your faith, **3**so that no one would be shaken by these persecutions. Indeed, you yourselves know that this is what we are destined for. **4**In fact, when we were with you, we told you beforehand that we were to suffer persecution; so it turned out, as you know. **5**For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to find out about your faith; I was afraid that somehow the tempter had tempted you and that our labor had been in vain.

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**Lesson 8—“Servant Leadership” –Philip. 2:19-30; 1 Thes. 3:1-5**

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