

Rejoice in the Lord Always **Philippians 4:4**

Rejoice in the Lord always. Again I will say, rejoice!

What should seem amazing about this command is that Paul is making it.

Paul is in prison, changed to a Roman soldier 24/7. He is facing the death penalty. He has had almost every bad thing happen to him that we can imagine.

2 Cor 11:24-29

24 From the Jews five times I received forty stripes minus one.²⁵ three times I was beaten with rods; once I was stoned; three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I have been in the deep;²⁶ in journeys often, in perils of waters, in perils of robbers, in perils of my own countrymen, in perils of the Gentiles, in perils in the city, in perils in the wilderness, in perils in the sea, in perils among false brethren;²⁷ in weariness and toil, in sleeplessness often, in hunger and thirst, in fastings often, in cold and nakedness --²⁸ besides the other things, what comes upon me daily: my deep concern for all the churches. NKJV

So let us look at this as it relates to us. Can we keep this command? To rejoice and again I say rejoice.

- I. We often rejoice over temporal blessing.
 - A. Material needs
 - 1. Food
 - 2. Housing
 - 3. Clothing
 - 4. Good job
 - B. Family relationships.
 - 1. Wife
 - 2. Husband
 - 3. Children
 - 4. Parents
 - 5. Grandchildren
 - C. Luxuries
 - 1. Books

2. Radio TV
3. Modern conveniences
4. About 90 percent of the things in our homes, the rest of the world does not have access to at all.

II. Our real joy is for eternal blessings.

A. Intangible

1. To know ourselves, our sin, our nature
2. To know God
 - a. His holiness
 - (1) How important is this? What if every senator and congressman was holy in their lives and conduct, would that make a difference.
 - (2) But God is holy and He is not going to let anything slide, nothing is going to get past Him.
 - b. His justice
 - c. His faithfulness
 - (1) He is faithful to Himself and to His promises.
 - (2) He is faithful to do what He said.
 - d. That He loves us and wants to change us.
 - e. That He provided for our salvation.

B. Tangible

1. God's Word
2. God's Son
3. God's Holy Spirit

C. Blessings

1. Conviction of sin
2. Forgiveness
3. Salvation, our name are in the book of life remember.
- 4.

Psalm 37:4 (NKJV)

4 Delight yourself also in the LORD,
And He shall give you the desires of your heart.

Ps 42:5

5 Why are you cast down, O my soul?
And why are you disquieted within me?
Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him
For the help of His countenance.
NKJV

Isaiah 61:10 (NKJV)

10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
My soul shall be joyful in my God;
For He has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
He has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
As a bridegroom decks himself with ornaments,
And as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

Habbakuk 3:17-19 NLT

17 Even though the fig trees have no blossoms,
and there are no grapes on the vines;
even though the olive crop fails,
and the fields lie empty and barren;
even though the flocks die in the fields,
and the cattle barns are empty,
18 yet I will rejoice in the LORD!
I will be joyful in the God of my salvation!
19 The Sovereign LORD is my strength!

He makes me as surefooted as a deer,*
able to tread upon the heights.

Romans 5:1–2 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom also we have access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Philippians 1:4 (NKJV) 4 always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy,

Philippians 1:18 (NKJV) 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.

Philippians 1:25-26 (NKJV) 25 And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith, 26 that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again.

Philippians 2:2 (NKJV) 2 fulfill my joy by being like-minded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

Philippians 2:17-18 (NKJV) 17 Yes, and if I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

Philippians 2:29 (NKJV) 29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness, and hold such men in esteem;

Philippians 3:1 (NKJV) 1 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write the same things to you is not tedious, but for you it is safe.

Philippians 4:1 (NKJV) 1 Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

Philippians 1:28–30 (NKJV)

28 and not in any way terrified by your adversaries, which is to them a proof of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that from God. 29 For to you it has been granted on behalf of Christ, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, 30 having the same conflict which you saw in me and now hear is in me.

James 1:2–5 2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him.

2 Corinthians 6:10 (NKJV)

10 as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Galatians 5:22 (NKJV)

22 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

For Paul to repeat twice in 4:4 the injunction to rejoice must mean that conditions in Philippi were such as to make the call to rejoice seem unreasonable. So he is saying, in spite of circumstance-in spite of annoyance, disagreement, persecution—rejoice! Dunnam, M. D., & Ogilvie, L. J. (1982). Galatians / Ephesians / Philippians / Colossians / Philemon (Vol. 31, p. 307). Nashville, TN: Thomas Nelson Inc.