

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

JOY FOR EVERY SITUATION

PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 1:22-26

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“THE RELEVANT CHRISTIAN” – PART 5A

DISCOVERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND HIS JOY IN EVERY SITUATION

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Joy, Peace, Power, Comfort, Growth, Living

Synonyms for the word Resilient

hardy, strong, robust, buoyant, tough, irrepressible, resistant, durable, - relentless.

1.) Recognizing what’s under our skin vs. 8-11

For God is my witness, how greatly I long for you all with the affection of Jesus Christ. **9** And this I pray, that your love may abound still more and more in knowledge and all discernment, **10** that you may approve the things that are excellent, that you may be sincere and without offense till the day of Christ, **11** being filled with the fruits of righteousness which are by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

2.) Realizing the centrality of our mission/lives vs. 12-14
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:12 But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, **13** so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; **14** and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

3.) Rejoicing in the face of everything vs. 15-21
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:15 Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: **16** The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; **17** but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. **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. **:19** For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, **20** according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. **21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.**

4.) Remaining faithful to the end vs. 22-26
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:22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. **23** For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better. **24** Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. **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.

Remembering those Synonyms for the word Resilient

hardy, strong, robust, buoyant, tough, irrepressible, resistant, durable, - **relentless**.

Philippians 1:6

being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ;

Philippians 1:21

For to me, **to live is Christ**, and **to die is gain**.

THE RELEVANT CHRISTIAN

5.) **Resilient** against a world condemned vs. 27-30

Only let your **conduct** be **worthy** of the Gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your **affairs**, that you **stand fast** in **one spirit**, with **one mind striving together** for the **faith of the gospel**, **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.

RELEVANCE IS A MOVING TARGET IF,
You're Desiring To Reach A Certain Demographic or
Market Share of People.

THERE IS THE QUEST FOR CULTURAL RELEVANCE
What Makes Someone Or Something "Exciting" or Desirable
to The Masses.

It Is The "What's Trending" Of Our Age
(expiration dates. Shelf life, limitations)

He is the One and only Uncreated Personality.

He is eternally unchangeable, all-knowing, all-powerful, and everything else is temporary compared to Him.

Nothing Can Be More Relevant
Than God Himself.

THE RELEVANT CHRISTIAN

5.) **Resilient** against a lost world vs. 27-30

**THE RELEVANT CHRISTIAN
IS RESILIENT AGAINST A LOST WORLD**

5a.) Resilient against a world that has no answer vs. 27

Only let your **conduct** be **worthy** of the **Gospel** of Christ,

The Roman Colony of Philippi

Conduct grk: **politeu/omai pol-it-eu-omai**, *pol-it-yoo'-om-ahee*; a **noun** that requires it to be qualified by the verb form. to behave in such a way that it honors the citizenship of **your** country. The way in which you live out your lifestyle or manner of living as a **citizen of heaven**. (we are to have a lifestyle here and now on earth that is at any moment “translatable” into heaven!)

A Philippian Citizen Could Go Anywhere in the Empire

With the freedom and boldness and assurance that the weight of Rome was behind them.

Worthy grk **ajxi÷wß axios**, *ax-ee'-oce*; a god worthy – honoring, an appropriate action. One that illustrates **what God is like**.

Why would our conduct matter as a Christian?

What difference does it make if I live for me and for Jesus when convenient?

(there are many reasons why but the main reason is that Jesus said we have an enemy whose target is your soul, your life, and your lifestyle. (to rob, kill then to destroy – in that order)

In a World that has no answers – The Resilient Christian is a **Walking-Living Billboard to The World!**

1 John 4:17

And as we live in God, our love grows more perfect. So we will not be afraid on the day of judgment, but we can face him with confidence because we live like Jesus here in this world.

Dr. Warren Wiersbe writes;

"The best weapon against the devil is a godly life". He went on to say that "Any local church that behaves what it believes cannot be defeated by Satan."

Verse 27b

so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your **affairs**,

Affairs grk: **peri÷ peri**, *per-ee'*; everything that is involved in living life. Nothing too big. Nothing too small. Everything in life (sparrows)

that you stand fast (AT IT)

stand fast grk: **sth/kw steko**, *stay'-ko*; statue-like, stationary, persevering. We would say today, hanging in there. It means to be immovable. set in position.

Verse 27c

that you **stand fast** in **one spirit**, with **one mind striving together**
for the **faith of the Gospel**

striving together for the faith of the Gospel

Ephesians 4:3

Endeavoring (sweat) to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

Jude 3

Beloved, while I was very diligent to write to you concerning our common salvation, **I found it necessary to write to you exhorting you to contend earnestly** for the faith which was once for all delivered to the saints.

**Stop and Ask Yourself Right Now – Am I Contending
(fighting for the Gospel)**

2 Corinthians 5:20

Now then, we are **ambassadors** for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.

one spirit grk: pneuvma pneuma, pnyoo'-mah; to be **in or on** the same current of air. The same thoughts, same goals, same purpose, same mission, all for the same reasons.

one mind grk: yuch/ psuche, psou-khay'; the breathing **in or of** the same breath. This speaks of the God-created, rational, immortal soul of man. *“And God breathed into Adam the breath of life and Adam became a living “psuche” (soul).*

striving together grk: sunagle÷w sunathleo, soon-ath-leh'-o; to war or to wrestle in company with another. to war together against an enemy. To be united together with another in mortal combat. (like navy seals or the delta force. Few in number because they are so united in the fight)

**THE RELEVANT CHRISTIAN
IS RESILIENT AGAINST A LOST WORLD**

5b.) Resilient against a world that is condemned vs. 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.

“and not in any way”

moved or scared by the worlds threats, attacks, influences, trends or policies.

Terrified grk: a word that describes the (rare and unusual) flinching or hesitation of a horse that is riding into battle. Horses do not hesitate to enter the battle.

like a dangerous disease or plague, invisible and silent,

it advances undetected until it's too late.

(Baxter / Edwards Life Sciences and HIV)

Adversaries grk: ajnti÷keimai antikeimai, an-tik'-i-mahee; from 473 and 2749; to lie in opposition against you. To be concealed with the intent to harm. To ambush. (John 10:10)

*We are not only children of God, we are brothers and sisters,
but we are more than that, we are fellow soldiers engaged in an epic battle.*

Persecution is Here (Thank you God)

1 Peter 4:12-14

Beloved, do not think it strange (rare and unusual) concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange (rare and unusual) thing happened to you; 13 but rejoice to the extent that you partake of Christ's sufferings, that when His glory is revealed, you may also be glad with exceeding joy. (we will have the scars to prove our battles) 14 If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed are you, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.

2 Timothy 3:12-13

Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution. 13 But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse,

Proof grk: εἰςδειξις endeixis, en'-dike-sis; a "declaring, present tense announcement. To be repeatedly announced, mindful. To be evidenced by the offender. To show the evidence of the crime.

is to them an evident **token** = KJV

This is a **sign** to them – NIV

This is a clear **omen** to them – RSV

(all of these words mean the same thing = a resident, impending doom)

their destruction is hanging over their head.

Deuteronomy 32:35 NLT

I the Lord will take revenge; I will pay them back. In due time their feet will slip. Their day of disaster will arrive, and their destiny will overtake them.'

I have to tell you something here in advance,

it's a much needed warning.

Battles for Righteousness is another Proof of Your Salvation.

Verse 28

your **adversaries**, which is to them a **proof of perdition**,

Perdition grk: ἀπώλεια apoleia, ap-o'-li-a; impending doom. Coming condemnation, damnation, destruction, a pernicious or malevolent end.

John 3:15-20

Whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. 16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. :18 "He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. 19 And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil. 20 For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed.

I will prove it to you this morning, right now, right here!

Romans 1:26-32

For this reason God gave them up to vile passions. For even their women exchanged the natural use for what is against nature. 27 Likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust for one another, men with men committing what is shameful, and receiving in themselves the penalty of their error which was due. 28 And even as they did not like to retain God in their knowledge, God gave them over to a debased mind, to do those things which are not fitting; 29 being filled with all unrighteousness, sexual immorality, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, strife, deceit, evil-mindedness; they are whisperers, 30 backbiters, haters of God, violent, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents, 31 undiscerning, untrustworthy, unloving, unforgiving, unmerciful; 32 who, knowing the righteous judgment of God, that those who practice such things are deserving of death, not only do the same but also approve of those who practice them.

THE RELEVANT CHRISTIAN IS RESILIENT AGAINST A LOST WORLD

5c.) Resilient against a world that will hurt you vs. 29-30

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.

We will not be silent because Jesus is not silent.

We will not be quiet because your lost heart is not quiet – is it?

We will continue to tell you about the love of God and His hatred of sin.

We will continue to tell you about heaven so you might escape hell.

We will continue to tell you about His open arms even if your heart is closed.

Granted grk: cari+zomai charizomai, khar-id'-zom-ahēe; To grant as a favor, to give as a gift. The term was used to describe a field officer over his warriors. This is perhaps one of the most overlooked doctrines in the Bible regarding discipleship – God sends His people into a hostile world to both do good and rescue other sinners. After we win a battle for good, He “GIFTS” us with another battle. It’s an honor to be invited by God!

“The presence of a conflict between good and evil is an honor”

Hebrews 12:3

For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. 4 You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.

John 16:33

These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”

John 15:18-19a

“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. 19a If you were of the world, the world would love (you) its own.

The Battle you're in as a Christian against the wickedness of this world or the evils of our day is proof, evidence, a confirmation that you are a citizen of heaven.

Someone who is going to heaven represents heaven.
We are the ambassadors of heaven to a hostile world.

End of Study

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