

PULPIT MINISTRY

JUNE 2007

EVENING WORSHIP

10 June 2007

Theme: "Rejoice in the Lord always"

Title: "In this I rejoice"

Text: Philippians 1:12-30

(I) CIRCUMSTANCES THAT ARE DIFFICULT TO REJOICE IN

1. Being in prison

*"...it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ" **Philippians 1:13***

2. Knowledge of people who wish to hurt you

*"The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains" **Philippians 1:16***

3. Facing the possibility of death by execution

*"...but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death" **Philippians 1:20***

(II) CHOOSING TO REJOICE

1. It's all a matter of choice

- a) To despair
- b) To rejoice

2. Choosing to rejoice

- a) Choosing to rejoice in the furtherance of the Gospel

*"...the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel" **Philippians 1:12***

- b) Choosing to Rejoice in the Proclamation of Christ

*"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 1:18***

c) Choosing to Rejoice in those who are good and true

*"Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from good will" **Philippians 1:15***

d) Choosing to live in hope

*"For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ" **Philippians 1:19***

(III) CONSISTENCY IN UPHOLDING THE SPIRIT OF JOY

1. Through seeking to live for Christ alone

*"For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain." **Philippians 1:21***

2. Through seeking to live a life that will magnify Christ

*"...but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death." **Philippians 1:20***

3. Through seeking to live a life that blesses others

*"Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you. And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in faith" **Philippians 1:24-25***