

**“Rejoicing in the
Preached Word”**

Philippians 1:12-18

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12 But I would ye should understand, brethren,
that the things which happened unto me
have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of
the gospel;

13 So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in
all the palace, and in all other places;

14 And many of the brethren in the Lord,
waxing confident by my bonds, are much
more bold to speak the word without fear.

15 Some indeed preach Christ even of envy
and strife; and some also of good will:

Philippians 1:12-18

16 The one preach Christ of contention,
not sincerely, supposing to add
affliction to my bonds:

17 But the other of love, knowing that I
am set for the defence of the gospel.

18 What then? notwithstanding, every
way, whether in pretence, or in truth,
Christ is preached; and I therein do
rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

“Rejoicing in the Preached Word”

- Movement of the Gospel

1. God has a Purpose

Philippians 1:12

12 But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;

2. God has a Plan

Philippians 1:13

13 So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places;

An Ambassador in Bonds

Ephesians 6:20

20 For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that therein I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.

3. God has a Personal Example

Philippians 1:14

14 And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

Enthusiasm is so important for pastors and Christian workers. I think it was Spurgeon who was asked,

"How come so many people come and hear you preach?"

**He said, "I guess because I'm enthusiastic."
"How do you get enthusiastic?"**

"Well, I'll tell you how to do it. Get a can of kerosene, pour it all over you, light yourself on fire, and they'll come watch you burn."

“Rejoicing in the Preached Word”

- Movement of the Gospel
- Motivation of the Giver

1. Two Motivations

Philippians 1:15

15 Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will:

2. Continuous Preacher

Philippians 1:16

16 The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds:

3. Compassionate Preacher

Philippians 1:17

17 But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defence of the gospel.

Not Against Us, For Us

Luke 9:49-50

49 And John answered and said, Master, we saw one casting out devils in thy name; and we forbad him, because he followeth not with us.

50 And Jesus said unto him, Forbid *him* not: for he that is not against us is for us.

Not With Christ, Against Christ

Luke 11:23

23 He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth.

The Correct Spirit

Luke 9:51 §

51 And it came to pass, when the time was come that he should be received up, he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem,
52 And sent messengers before his face: and they went, and entered into a village of the Samaritans, to make ready for him.
53 And they did not receive him, because his face was as though he would go to Jerusalem.

The Correct Spirit

Luke 9:54 §

54 And when his disciples James and John saw *this*, they said, Lord, wilt thou that we command fire to come down from heaven, and consume them, even as Elias did?
55 But he turned, and rebuked them, and said, Ye know not what manner of spirit ye are of.
56 For the Son of man is not come to destroy men's lives, but to save *them*. And they went to another village.

“Rejoicing in the Preached Word”

- Movement of the Gospel
- Motivation of the Giver
- Mutual Gratitude

Mutual Gratitude

Philippians 1:18

18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

Corrie Ten Boom in *The Hiding Place* relates an incident which taught her this principle. She and her sister, Betsy, had just been transferred to the worst German prison camp they had seen yet, Ravensbruck. Upon entering the barracks, they found them extremely overcrowded and flea-infested. Their scripture reading that morning in 1 Thessalonians had reminded them to rejoice always, pray constantly, and give thanks in all circumstances. Betsy told Corrie to stop and thank the Lord for every detail of their new living quarters. Corrie at first flatly refused to give thanks for the fleas, but Betsy persisted. She finally succumbed. During the months spent at the camp, they were surprised to find how openly they could hold Bible study and prayer meetings without guard interference. It was several months later when they learned that the guards would not enter the barracks because of the fleas.

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Ezekiel 33:1-7

- 1 Again the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,
- 2 Son of man, speak to the children of thy people, and say unto them, When I bring the sword upon a land, if the people of the land take a man of their coasts, and set him for their watchman:
- 3 If when he seeth the sword come upon the land, he blow the trumpet, and warn the people;
- 4 Then whosoever heareth the sound of the trumpet, and taketh not warning; if the sword come, and take him away, his blood shall be upon his own head.

Ezekiel 33:1-7

5 He heard the sound of the trumpet, and took not warning; his blood shall be upon him. But he that taketh warning shall deliver his soul.

6 But if the watchman see the sword come, and blow not the trumpet, and the people be not warned; if the sword come, and take any person from among them, he is taken away in his iniquity; but his blood will I require at the watchman's hand.

7 So thou, O son of man, I have set thee a watchman unto the house of Israel; therefore thou shalt hear the word at my mouth, and warn them from me.
