

REJOICE AND BE HAPPY.

3-12-2023 AM.

INTRODUCTION:

A. Read the text: Phil. 4:4.

B. Regarding the text:

1. Remember Paul's circumstance and the situation of these brethren.
2. The times were difficult. Yet, Paul has challenged them to keep enduring, in spite of their circumstance, just as he himself has done.
3. Rejoice – present tense. Ongoing action. Rejoicing should always be our normal mind-set. Paul is saying we need to continually have a happy disposition.

I. REJOICE IN THE LORD.

A. Rejoicing is a continual theme in this letter.

1. The word rejoice is found 12 times in Philippians.
2. We live in trying times. Yet, the faithful can “rejoice in the Lord.”
 - 1) Someone said, “Happiness is the choice I make.”
 - 2) Happy is the person who trusts in God and His word (Proverbs 16:20).
 - 3) Trust in God with all our heart (Proverbs 29:18).

B. God wants us to be joyful.

1. It is not based primarily on our circumstances. Sometimes it is in spite of our circumstances.
2. What does it mean to rejoice? The Greek word is defined as to feel happiness and well-being.
 - 1) Spiritually, it means to have a disposition of contentment, gratitude and looking for the best in a given situation.
 - 2) It is a determination that you are not going to let troubles defeat you.
3. Will there be time of sadness? Yes! There are times when we are sorrowful.
 - 1) Jesus, endured the cross (Hebrews 12:2).
 - 2) Paul would gladly spend and be spent (2 Corinthians 12:15).
 - 3) Paul spoke of a time for weeping (Romans 12:15).
4. However, what is our normal disposition? WHY are we not joyful? Is it temporary?

II. REJOICE ALWAYS.

A. “Always” regardless of the circumstances (1 Thessalonians 5:16).

B. We rejoice because we have fellowship with God (1 John 1:4).

C. Paul rejoiced even in difficulties (Philippians 1:12-17).

III. WE SHOULD FIND HAPPINESS IN SEVERAL THINGS.

A. Happiness comes from Righteous Living.

1. Living righteously is filling our minds with wholesome things (Philippians 4:8).
2. When we live righteously, we rejoice as we walk with the Lord (3 John 4).

B. We rejoice as we worship God (Psalm 122:1).

C. Rejoice because we have learned to be content (Philippians 4:11-13).

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. Happiness is not in things...

B. Happiness is not a new car, a big home, or a new toy.

1. Happiness is a spiritual.
2. It is an outlook on life.
3. Colossians 3:1-3.