



Part 4: Joyful Response

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All scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted.

Christian Joy is the emotional response of the soul from the Holy Spirit which produces supernatural spiritual strength for life. (Galatians 5:22, Nehemiah 8:10)

REVIEW

Pray joyfully for Inward Growth.

Pray joyfully for Upward Focus.

Pray joyfully for Outward Change.

Paul Saw His Trials...

AS GOD AT WORK

Philippians 1:6 (ESV)-And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Philippians 1:12 (ESV)- I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel.

Romans 8:28 (ESV)-And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Proverbs 19:21 (NIV)-“Many are the plans in a person’s heart, but it is the Lord’s purpose that prevails.”

How God Was at Work

1. SPREADING HIS MESSAGE

Gospel- (εὐαγγέλιον) from the words “good” (εὐδοκία) “Message” (ἀγγελία)

Romans 1:16 (ESV)- For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, to the Jew first and also to the Greek.

Philippians 1:12 (ESV)- I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel.

2. CREATING OPPORTUNITIES

Philippians 1:12-13 (ESV)- I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.

Luke 21:12-13 But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. This will be your opportunity to bear witness.

3. INSPIRING OTHERS

Philippians 1:14 (ESV)-And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

2 Corinthians 2:17 (ESV)- For we are not, like so many, peddlers of God's word, but as men of sincerity, as commissioned by God, in the sight of God we speak in Christ.

4. REDEEMING OPPOSITION

Philippians 1:15-18 (ESV)-Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

Here is the Point: Trust that God is at work through trials, look for the opportunity; rejoice in the good!