

A Study of the Book of Philippians

Theme:

**“OUR PARTNERSHIP
IN THE GOSPEL!”**

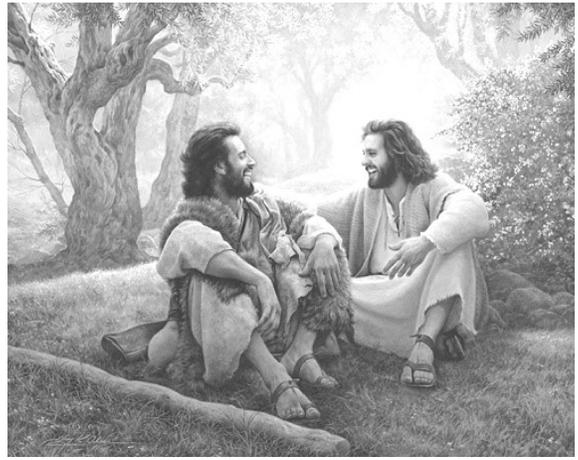
Trinity Lutheran Church Norman, OK.

Pastor David R. Nehrenz

Lesson: 28

Chapter 4:4-7

Date: 5-24-20



BIBLE TEXT:

*(1) Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in **the Lord**, my beloved. (2) I entreat Euodia and I entreat Syntyche to agree in **the Lord**. (3) Yes, I ask you also, true companion, help these women, who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life.*

(4) Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. (5) Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. **The Lord is at hand;** (6) do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to **God.** (7) **And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.**

(8) Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. (9) What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and **the God of peace** will be with you.

(10) I rejoiced in **the Lord** greatly that now at length you have revived your concern for me. You were indeed concerned for me, but you had no opportunity. (11) Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. (12) I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. (13) I can do all things through **him who strengthens me.**

(14) Yet it was kind of you to share my trouble. (15) And you Philippians yourselves know that in the beginning of the gospel, when I left Macedonia, no church entered into partnership with me in giving and receiving, except you only. (16) Even in Thessalonica you sent me help for my needs once and again. (17) Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the fruit that increases to your credit. (18) I have received full payment, and more. I am well supplied, having received from Epaphroditus the gifts you sent, a fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to **God.**

(19) And **my God** will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in **Christ Jesus.** (20) To **our God and Father** be glory forever and ever. Amen. (21) Greet every saint in **Christ Jesus.** The brothers who are with me greet you. (22) All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar's household. (23) **The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.**

STUDY NOTES:

- Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
(Ps 85:6; 97:12; Hab 3:17,18; Mt 5:12; 2 Cor 13:11; Jas 1:2; 1 Pet 4:13)
- Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.
(2 Cor 10:1; 1 Tim 3:3; Titus 3:2)
- The Lord is at hand;
(Ps 119:151; 145:18; Rom 13:11; Heb 10:37; Jas 5:8,9; Rev 22:7,12,20)
- Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
(Mt 6:25-34; Rom 1:8; 2 Cor 11:28; Eph 6:18; 1 Tim 2:1; 1 Pet 5:7)
- And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
(Is 26:3; Jn 14:27; Rom 5:1; Eph 3:18-20; Col 3:15; 1 Pet 1:5)

LIFE APPLICATION:

1. In what ways do we rejoice in the Lord always?
2. Why is reasonableness a good trait for everyone?
3. Prayer - supplication - thanksgiving – requests

ACTS: A-doration C-onfession T-hanksgiving S-upplication

4. Spoken after the sermon: “The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”

This “guard” is like an armed soldier sentry, standing by the door, guarding your heart

LUTHER’S WORKS: Vol. 54, pp. 95–96 “On Joy”

“I asked him [Martin Luther] about a certain man who, when he had a stomach ache for several days and as a consequence had pain in his head and was confused in his thoughts, got the notion and was afraid that he was falling into a state of melancholy. He disclosed his anxiety to me and asked that I notify the doctor, whereupon he [Martin Luther] responded with these words: “When the devil can bring this about, it means that imagination has produced the effect. On this account his thoughts ought to be changed. He ought to think about Christ. You should say to him, ‘Christ lives. You have been baptized. God is not a God of sadness, death, etc., but the devil is. **Christ is a God of joy, and so the Scriptures often say that we should rejoice, be glad, etc.** This is Christ. Because you have a gracious God, he won’t take you by the throat.’”

“**A Christian should and must be a cheerful person.** If he isn’t, the devil is tempting him. I have sometimes been grievously tempted while bathing in my garden, and then I have sung the hymn, ‘Let us now praise Christ.’ Otherwise I would have been lost then and there. Accordingly, when you notice that you have some such thoughts, say, ‘This isn’t Christ.’ To be sure, he can hear the name of Christ, but it’s a lie because Christ says, ‘Let not your hearts be troubled [John 14:27]. Trust in me,’ etc. **This is a command of God: ‘Rejoice!’** I now preach this, and I also write it, but I haven’t as yet learned it. But it happens that we learn as we’re tempted. If we were always glad, the devil would befoul us. Christ knows that our hearts are troubled, and it is for this reason that he says and commands, ‘Let not your hearts be troubled.’”