

Rejoicing in the Furtherance of the Gospel

Philippians 1:12-18

Main Point:

You have a part to play in the furtherance of the gospel; joyfully accept your role as you seek the glory of Christ.

1. Like Paul, you have a part to play in the furtherance of the gospel.

2. Sometimes your part may be less than ideal.

3. When you seek the glory of Christ through the advancement of the gospel, you will be enabled to accept your part with joy.

Philippians 1:12-18 (NKJV)

¹² But I want you to know, brethren, that the things *which happened* to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; ¹⁴ and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. ¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from good will: ¹⁶ The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; ¹⁷ but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁸ 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.

Quotations

William Hendriksen “What really matters to him is not what they are doing to *him* but what they are doing for *the gospel*.”

Frank Thielman “If, in our own circumstances, we lack this kind of joy, then perhaps we should search our souls to be sure that our happiness is not more firmly connected to our physical and emotional comfort than to the goals of the gospel.”