

Rejoicing that Christ is Preached

Phil 1:13-18

August 26, 2018

I want to be happy.

How do we pursue happiness?

Jesus points us to a higher purpose (Mark 8:34-35; Matt 6:33)

Paul points us in higher direction (Rom 8:18; 2 Cor 4:17; Rom 8:28; 12-13; Phil 4:11-13)

Make the progress of the gospel your chief concern, and it will become your primary source of joy.

Answering Concerns for Paul's Welfare v 12

“In one deft sentence Paul shifts the legitimate interest of the Philippians from himself to the great undeterred purposes of God in history.” James Boice

Paul was a Zealous man. (JC Ryle meditation)

Paul was bound, but the word of God was not bound. (2 Tim 2:9; Isa 40:8; 55:11)

Noting the Progress of the Gospel v 13-14

Christ has been proclaimed to the rotating guards who watched Paul. (Phil 4:22)

Many are made more bold to speak the gospel, while I am in prison.

Rejoicing that that Gospel is Preached v 15-18

Some preached Christ from wrong motives – envy and strife.

Power politics happen, sadly, even in the church.

Application:

- 1) Don't focus on your circumstances, focus on the progress of the gospel. (Gal 2:20)
- 2) Be bold in your proclaiming and adorning the gospel.
- 3) Don't divide the body of Christ.
- 4) Rejoice when Christ is preached.