

HOW TO BIBLICALLY LIVE IN THE NEW YEAR

The Epistle to the Philippian Believers

Intro: Last Sunday we began looking at a topic concerning the New Year and Biblical living. Today we are continuing that thought. This New Year has started off, for many of us, far different than what we had expected or hoped for. As with any New Year, we never know what will come, we only hope that we will handle it well and continue to look to the Lord each day. The Apostle Paul instructed the believers at Philippi how to live each day for Christ.

We saw last week,

- I. In Chapter 1 Paul is:
 - A. Rejoicing in the **Lord** for the Philippian believers **Vs 1-10**
 - B. Reflecting on the **relationship** he has with the believers at Philippi **Vs 7-8**
 - C. Remembering to **pray** for the continued spiritual growth of fellow believers **Vs 9-11**
 - D. Resolute in the **preaching** of the Gospel **Vs 12-18**
 - E. Reevaluating his **purpose** in life **Vs 19-30**
 - F. Reminding the believers at Philippi to **remain** faithful to Christ **Vs 27-30**
- II. In Chapter 2 Paul is:
 - A. **Pointing** the believers to Christ's example **Vs 1-11**
 - B. **Prompting** the believers to live a Christ-filled life **Vs 12-18**
 - C. **Providing** information about those they knew who were walking examples of the Christ-filled life **Vs 19-30**

Today, we see,

- III. In Chapter 3 Paul is
 - A. _____ on his purpose in life **Vs 1-11**
 - 1. _____ in the Lord **Vs 1**
 - a. Here used as a _____
 - b. "Joy to you in the Lord!"
 - c. "Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord." NLT
 - d. When it comes to _____, we should rejoice no matter what we may be going through in life.
 - 2. Reminding them of the _____ of the enemy working through people **Vs 2**
 - a. *Dogs*-considered in Bible times as unclean animals to be _____
 - b. *Evil Doers*-In this context, those who were using _____ for evil purposes to remove believers from following Christ.
 - c. *Concision*-Literally to cut off. Those who were _____ the believers conform to the OT laws, especially concerning circumcision.
 - 3. _____ his accomplishments in the flesh **Vs 3-6**
 - a. Paul is speaking as one who has come _____ of the legalistic way of thinking **Vs 3**
 - b. Paul had _____ a lot of religious clout to follow Christ **Vs 4-6**
 - 4. Reevaluating those accomplishments in light of the _____ - _____ life **Vs 7-11**
 - a. The "clout" of things in this life is _____ compared to the joy of knowing and having a relationship with Christ **Vs 7-8**
 - b. Knowing Christ as Savior is the most important _____ one can make **Vs 9**

- c. Once we know Christ as Savior, we must _____ on knowing his plan and purpose for our life **Vs 10-11**
- B. _____ how he lives his life daily **Vs 12-14**
1. Reality tells him he is far from _____ **Vs 12a**
 2. Recognizing imperfection does not mean _____ **Vs 12b**
 3. (Paul) _____ his pattern of living **Vs 13-14**
 - a. His past is his _____, and he cannot change it **Vs 13a**
 - b. His past he will _____ from, but he determines not to _____ it **Vs 13b**
 1. He will not remember his past so as to be a destructive _____
 2. He will learn from his past and apply life's _____ to the future
 - c. He will face the future with an ever-present _____ on Christ **Vs 14**
 1. There is a _____ for living—the goal **Vs 14a**
 2. There is a _____ in living—the high calling of God **Vs 14b**
 3. There is a _____ to live for—Christ Jesus **Vs 14c**
- C. _____ in living a mature Christian life **Vs 15-21**
1. Remain _____ **Vs 15-16**
 - a. *Thus minded*-in _____ **Vs 15a**
 - b. Let God take care of _____ opinions **Vs 15b**
 - c. Let us live up to the spiritual _____ we know to be right for us individually **Vs 16**
 2. Remain _____ **Vs 17-19**
 - a. Aware of the _____ lives of other believers around us **Vs 17**
 - b. Aware of the _____ lives of others who are consumed with self-center thinking and actions **Vs 18**
 - c. Aware of _____ the lifestyle of the unfaithful is going to end up **Vs 19**
 3. Remain _____ on eternal results **Vs 20-21**
 - a. Our _____ is Heaven **Vs 20**
 - b. Our _____ is eternal change for the better **Vs 21**