

**HUMILIATION PRECEDES REJOICING
PHILIPPIANS 4:4**

Humility is produced in us when we acknowledge and agree with the reality of our condition in light of God's holiness and our sinfulness.

The essence of pride is contending for supremacy with God, and lifting up our hearts against Him. ~ C.J. Mahaney (The end goal of all pride is self-glorification.)

Q: What brings you joy? What satisfies your soul's longing?

If I find in myself a desire which no experience in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that I was made for another world. ~ C.S. Lewis

A. A Simple Command for the Follower of Christ – v.4

1. **Rejoice** in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
2. Rejoice **in the Lord** always; again I will say, Rejoice.
3. Rejoice in the Lord **always**; again I will say, Rejoice.
4. Rejoice in the Lord always; **again I will say, Rejoice.**

B. An Anxious Heart is really a Proud Heart – v. 5-7 (1 Peter 5:6-7)

1. **The posture – dependence on Him with humble heart (got prayer?)**
2. **The promise – His peace guarding our heart and mind**

Unbelief is a turning away from God and His Son in order to seek satisfaction in other things. Pride is a turning away from God specifically to take satisfaction in self. ~ John Piper

C. A Renewed Mind Makes Rejoicing Possible – v. 8-9

1. What we think about makes a difference!

Have you realized that most of your unhappiness in life is due to the fact that you are listening to yourself instead of talking to yourself? ~ Martin Lloyd-Jones

2. The Place of our ‘Citizenship’ Changes Our Perspective – (3:18-20)

The Enemies of the Cross of Christ – 3:18-19

a. their end is destruction –Psalm 73

b. their god is their belly – James 4:4-10

c. they glory in their shame – Romans 1:21, 28, 32
...with minds set on earthly things.

Those who follow Christ and glory in His Cross – 3:20-21

a. eternal perspective on the things of this world

b. a fixed hope in heaven produces joy on earth

Q: Recognize the difference between an inconvenience and a problem?

Q: What do you do with problems?

Aim at heaven and you get earth thrown in, aim at earth and you get neither.

**~ C.S.
Lewis**

D. Contentment in Christ Releases the Heart to Rejoice – v.10-13

*My circumstances can never serve as the source of my joy,
but rather my circumstances can (and should)
serve to drive me back to the source of my joy.*