

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

October 3, 2021

Joy & Unity: Paul's Past, Present & Future (Philippians 3:1-21)

As we continue our series on Philippians called *Joy and Unity*, we move into chapter 3 where Paul begins by encouraging the Christians to "rejoice in the Lord" (1) and then provides an examination of his life starting with his past (1-11), moving into his present (12-16), and finally to his future (17-21). In this examination Paul is demonstrating that Christ is the only thing that matters. When reading through this, I like to imagine Paul in three different roles. They are:



Past (1-11): The _____ "I Count"

All of us who begin a walk with Christ must first realize that we are missing something that cannot be fulfilled by what we do or what we can obtain in this life. We must consider where our confidence resides, and that faith placed in **anything** other than Christ is "rubbish" (8). While this marks the beginning of our journey, it is not a one-time action. The temptation to place faith in ourselves is always there, and it is vital that we continually evaluate whether we are resting our weight on the foundation of Jesus Christ or on something else that will ultimately fail.



Present (12-16): The _____ "I Press"

What is our aim in life, and how does this affect the way we live day-to-day? What are we willing to do, or sacrifice, to meet our goals? If our faith rests with the things of this life, then it is likely that our objectives are also related to things of this life. If this is the case then we probably spend our days consumed with trying to **achieve** the things we want out of life (i.e., happiness, success, wealth, etc.).

(Over)



"The Lord has made known His salvation; His righteousness He has revealed in the sight of the nations."

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Let Me See

God, grant to me
that I may see
The beauty of
a crooked tree.
The blossom of
a humble weed,
The glory of
a homely seed.
The pathos of
a homeless pup,
The way to lift
a brother up.
O, grant to me
the highest art -
The patience of
an open heart.

What would our day-to-day lives look like if our main objective was to truly be a part of God's Kingdom? What would we be willing to do, or sacrifice, to live with Christ for eternity?



Future (17-21): The _____ “We Await”

No matter how much we plan and pack for a trip to another location, it just never quite feels like home. There's a good reason for this. It is NOT our home! Do you ever feel this way about life in general here on earth? Do you ever feel like everyone (co-workers, government, media, etc.) is against you and your beliefs, and that you just don't fit within most places of our culture? There's also a good reason for this. This world is **NOT** our home. If we truly are walking with Christ as a part of His Kingdom, then this earth will never feel like home, because we have our eyes set on a different destination. We are simply sojourning here in this life. We await the return of our Savior who will liberate us from our temporary, “lowly” (21), bodies and transform us into his glorious image to live in eternity with Him in heaven.

Sermon Notes

PRAYER LIST

- **Mamie Hamilton** is receiving therapy on her back. Calls & visits would be appreciated.
- **John Hayes** is doing well at home
- Continue to remember **Kristine Garrett, Faye Waller** and **Ann Reed**

SERVING TODAY (October 3, 2021)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Read: J. Walker
Prayer: L. Gregory

WORSHIP

Read: C. Baker
Wait On Table: J. Gupton
Serve: D. Demonbreun, J. Buchanan
Prayer: M. Reed