

“Living With Perpetual Rejoicing”
Two Part Series
April 7, 2024

As Christians, we are assured that no matter our earthly situations, our eternal security is found through **FAITH** in Christ. We do not need to fear the future because if we live **DEVOTED** to Jesus, we have a promise from God that we are not alone. Here are a few points of our identity:

- *A Christian’s life is lived visibly:* The apostle Paul sought to be an example to other Christians in difficult circumstances. When we live for Christ, we strive to **MAGNIFY** Jesus with all our decisions.
- *A Christian’s life is lived consistently:* **When we proclaim Jesus with our words and declare Him with our lifestyle, we make a difference. Nothing makes the witness of Christ look worse than hypocritical Christians who value financial, political, and social gain over Truth.**
- *A Christian’s life is united:* The Church is a **TEAM (Body)** where every person is vital to its effectiveness in presenting Christ. “One Lord, one faith, and one baptism. One God, Father of all, who is above all, and through all and in you all.” We sometimes may have differing opinions on worship style or biblical translation, but what unites us is the Holy Spirit and our faith in Jesus. As you know, our love for Jesus and seeing people experience His forgiveness is more important than our divisions.
- *A Christian’s life is lived confidently:* We are not defined by our current situation, the struggles of our past, or the mistakes we have made. **Our identity and confidence are rooted in Christ.** We do not need to fear the future; our hope is in Christ. He is with us and will never forsake us, even when friends and relatives refuse to include us.
- **Scripture Text: Philippians 4:4-9 NASB** 4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I will say, rejoice! 5 Let your gentle spirit be known to all people. The Lord is near. 6 Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the Peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. 8 Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if anything, worthy of praise, think about these things. 9 As for the things you have

learned, received, heard, and seen in me, practice these things, and the God of Peace will be with you.

VERSE 4 Rejoice in the Lord always: and again, I say, Rejoice.

To rejoice is to delight in something. There are many things that we find no joy in, such as a nation preferring prosperity over righteousness, sowing discord among people, leaders not being truth-tellers, and the wave of theft, murder, and violence. On the other hand, as the redeemed of the Lord, we delight in having a relationship with God!

Therefore, we rejoice in the Lord because of **His death, burial, and Resurrection**, which made us righteous before God the Father.

We rejoice in the Lord because of the abiding presence of the **Holy Spirit!**

We rejoice in the Lord because He is **Faithful!**

We rejoice in the Lord because He is our **Deliverer!**

We rejoice in the Lord because He is our **Healer!**

We rejoice in the Lord because He is our **Mediator between God and man!**

We rejoice in the Lord because He is **Coming back to receive us!**

If you find it difficult to rejoice in these assurances, you must be among **the LIVING DEAD!**

Applications:

Looking to the Lord as we walk by faith assures us of His abiding Peace in our hearts.

When our greatest enemy has been conquered, rejoicing is inevitable.