

When Living Means Christ: We Have Joy
Philippians 1:21; 2:17-18; 3:1; 4:4

"For me, living means _____ - Phil 1:21

- Jesus Christ : The origin, the essence, the goal of living - Acts 17:28; Jo 10:10

When Living Means Christ, We Have Joy - Phil 2:17-18; 3:1; 4:4,10

- There is nothing pathological, sinful about sadness, sorrow - Jo 12:27; Is 53:3

...Joy does not replace genuine sorrow or sadness but runs concurrent with it - II Cor 6:19; 7:4; Col 1:24

- A gift of holy gladness rooted in the unseen, eternal character of God...

...not found in absence of some "thing", but in the Presence of Some "One" - Ps 16:11

..."fruit of the Spirit": Divine doings in human beings - Ga 5:22-23

...the enjoyment of His faithful character - Ps 43:4

- We have Christ's joy - Jo 15:11

...the joy of being rightly related to His Father - Jo 10:30; 17:21-23

...the joy of laying down His Life for others - Heb 12:2

The Witness of Joy Is Upon the Life Surrendered to God - Ps 126:1-3

- The life rightly related to God in Christ - Lk 10:20; Lk 15:1-32 ("lost... found... rejoice!)

...caught up into the eternal stream of God's purposes - Is 14:27; 46:10; Eph 1:11

...the joy of "with-ness" - Ps 23:4; Mk 3:14; I Pet 1:3-9 (Ps 2:4/Eph 2:6)

The Witness of Joy Is Upon the Life Surrendered to Others - Phil 2:17

- The joy of self-expenditure, not self-acquisition - Heb 12:2

...joy and self-preservation cannot breathe the same air - Acts 20:35

...the joy of the Lord is the witness upon the poured out life - Phil 2:7

There Is No One to Blame If We Are without Joy - Jo 16:22

- Joy killers/thieves: "lies"... about God... ourselves... life... past, present, future... others

- "Rejoice in the Lord always" is an imperative (command) - Phil 4:4

...we have His supply of joy - Jo 15:11

...we may choose to cooperate with His operation... or not - Ps 118:24