

4 Enemies of Joy (Philippians 3:1-4:4)

REJOICE!

- A. This is a way of blocking off his content
- B. _____ is central to Christianity (Isa. 65:18, Neh. 8:10)
- C. Rejoicing runs like a thread through Philippians

FOUR ENEMIES OF JOY

1. Beware of Legalism!

- A. “Beware the mongrels, the _____, the slashers!”
- B. Confidence in the flesh rather than confidence in Christ

1. Heritage (things done to Paul)

2. Accomplishments (things Paul has done)

- C. Paul calls all this “loss, loss, _____” and “rubbish” (Isaiah 64:6)

THE GOSPEL

- **We are sinners: our best efforts are _____**
- **We should *not* put our confidence in our flesh!**
- **Rather, put it in Christ!**

1) **We can receive righteousness from God, on the basis of faith**
(Romans 3:23, 6:23, 5:6, 10:9-10)

2) **We can *know* Him**

- **We can *gain* Christ!**
- **We can be found *in Him!***
- **We can *know* Him!**
- **We can receive the *power* of His resurrection!**
- **We can have the fellowship of *His sufferings!***
- **We can be conformed to His death**
- **We can (somehow) attain to the resurrection from the dead!**
- **....what good news! What joy!**

2. Beware of Perfectionism

- A. Not that Paul has already _____ it
- B. Paul forgets what lies behind, and presses on towards _____

3. Beware of Immorality

Immoral Teachers...

- A. Set their minds on _____ things
- B. Their god is their _____
- C. Their _____ is in their shame (Jeremiah 6:15, Jude 13)
- D. Their end is destruction

But Paul and Christians...

- A. Are citizens of Heaven
- B. Wait for a Saviour from Heaven...
- C. ...who will transform our mortal bodies
- D. ...and will bring all things into submission to Himself

4. Beware of Divisions

- A. Live in harmony in the Lord
- B. Help others live in harmony

CONCLUSION:

Big Idea: The Christian Message (The Gospel) is about Joy!

Four enemies of Joy:

1. _____
"Don't put your confidence in the flesh: put it in Christ Jesus!"
2. _____
"Don't think you've arrived: press on towards Christ's upwards call!"
3. _____
"Don't set your desires on things on earth: walk in light of Eternity!"
4. _____
"Don't let divisions steal your joy: live in harmony in the Lord!"

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