

Pastor Shawn

Joy is Strength - Philippians 3:1-11

March 2, 2025

"Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith.

Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved. For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more!

Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith."

Philippians 3:1-11

Purpose of the Passage:

- 1. To urge followers of Jesus to rejoice in the Lord,
 - → Rejoicing protects and strengthens your faith

"Do not grieve, for the joy of the Lord is your strength" Nehemiah 8:10

→ Rejoicing refocuses ourselves to worship God's goodness

"Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!" Psalm 95:2

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

2. To reject false confidence in ability to obey God and be righteous, "But now apart from the law the **righteousness of God** has been made known, to which the Law and the Prophets testify. **This righteousness** is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are

difference between Jew and Gentile, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and all are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. God presented Christ as a sacrifice of atonement, through the shedding of his blood—to be received by faith. He did this to demonstrate his righteousness, because in his forbearance he had left the sins committed beforehand unpunished— he did it to demonstrate his righteousness at the present time, so as to be just and the one who justifies those who have faith in Jesus."

Romans 3:21-26

God declares us not guilty because of Jesus' sacrifice paid the price of our sin **MERCY**: not getting what we deserve

God declares us righteous when we trust in Jesus Christ's payment for our sins.

GRACE: getting what we didn't deserve

GRACE . getting what we didn't deserve

3. And to pursue an intimate, life-changing relationship with Jesus.

"You will seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." Jeremiah 29:13

"...those of you who do not give up everything you have cannot be my disciples." Luke 14:33