



# Paul's Letter to the Philippians:

MAY 16<sup>TH</sup> – INTRODUCTION AND CHAPTER 1:1 TO 1:20

MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> – CHAPTER 1:19 TO 2:18

MAY 30<sup>TH</sup> – CHAPTER 2:19 TO 3:16

JUNE 6<sup>TH</sup> – CHAPTER 3:17 TO 4:23

# Review of Last Week

## Paul is writing as a prisoner in Rome

- ▶ Introduction - strategic location of Philippi
- ▶ Greeting - friend to friends, servant to servants
- ▶ Thanksgiving - for “fellowship in the Gospel”
- ▶ Prayer - that their love may abound more and more
- ▶ A main source of Joy - the advancement of the Gospel

# 5 Sources of Joy

- ▶ #1 (1:19 - 1:26) To live is Christ, to die is gain
- ▶ #2 (1:27 - 1:30) Adversity
- ▶ #3 (2:1 - 2:4) Unity
- ▶ #4 (2:5 - 2:10) Humility
- ▶ #5 (2:12 - 2:18) The working out of our Salvation



# Joy #1

To Live is Christ, to die is gain



▶ Paul's Question: What is Life?



▶ Jesus' Answer: I AM the Way, the Truth,  
and the Life



▶ Paul's realization: **TO LIVE IS CHRIST.**

# TO LIVE IS CHRIST

- ▶ 1.) Our life begins with Christ
- ▶ 2.) Our life is maintained by Christ
- ▶ 3.) Our life ends with Christ
- ▶ 4.) Christ is the inspiration of life
- ▶ 5.) Christ is the task or purpose of life
- ▶ 6.) Christ is the strength of life
- ▶ 7.) Christ is the reward of life.

## 2 Corinthians 5:8

We are confident, yes, well pleased  
rather to be absent from the body  
and to be present with the Lord.



Joy #2

Joy in Adversity

# Joy in Adversity

- ▶ 1.) Adversity is a Proof of our FAITH
- ▶ 2.) Suffering for the Lord is a privilege
- ▶ 3.) The fellowship of His suffering

# Adversity is a Privilege

- ▶ Acts 5:41 So they departed from the presence of the council, **rejoicing that they were counted worthy** to suffer shame for His name.

# Adversity is a Joy

- ▶ James 1:2 My brethren, **count it all joy when you fall into various trials,** 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.



Joy #3

Joy in Unity

# Unity Busters



- ▶ 1.) Selfish Ambition
- ▶ 2.) Self-esteem / Pride
- ▶ 3.) Self - Interest

# Joyful Priorities

- ▶ **J** = Jesus 1<sup>st</sup>
- ▶ **O** = Others 2<sup>nd</sup>
- ▶ **Y** = Yourself last

# Unity Builders

- ▶ 1.) Being “In Christ” together
- ▶ 2.) Love
- ▶ 3.) Fellowship of the Spirit
- ▶ 4.) Affection and Mercy
- ▶ \* Do it for Me (Paul)

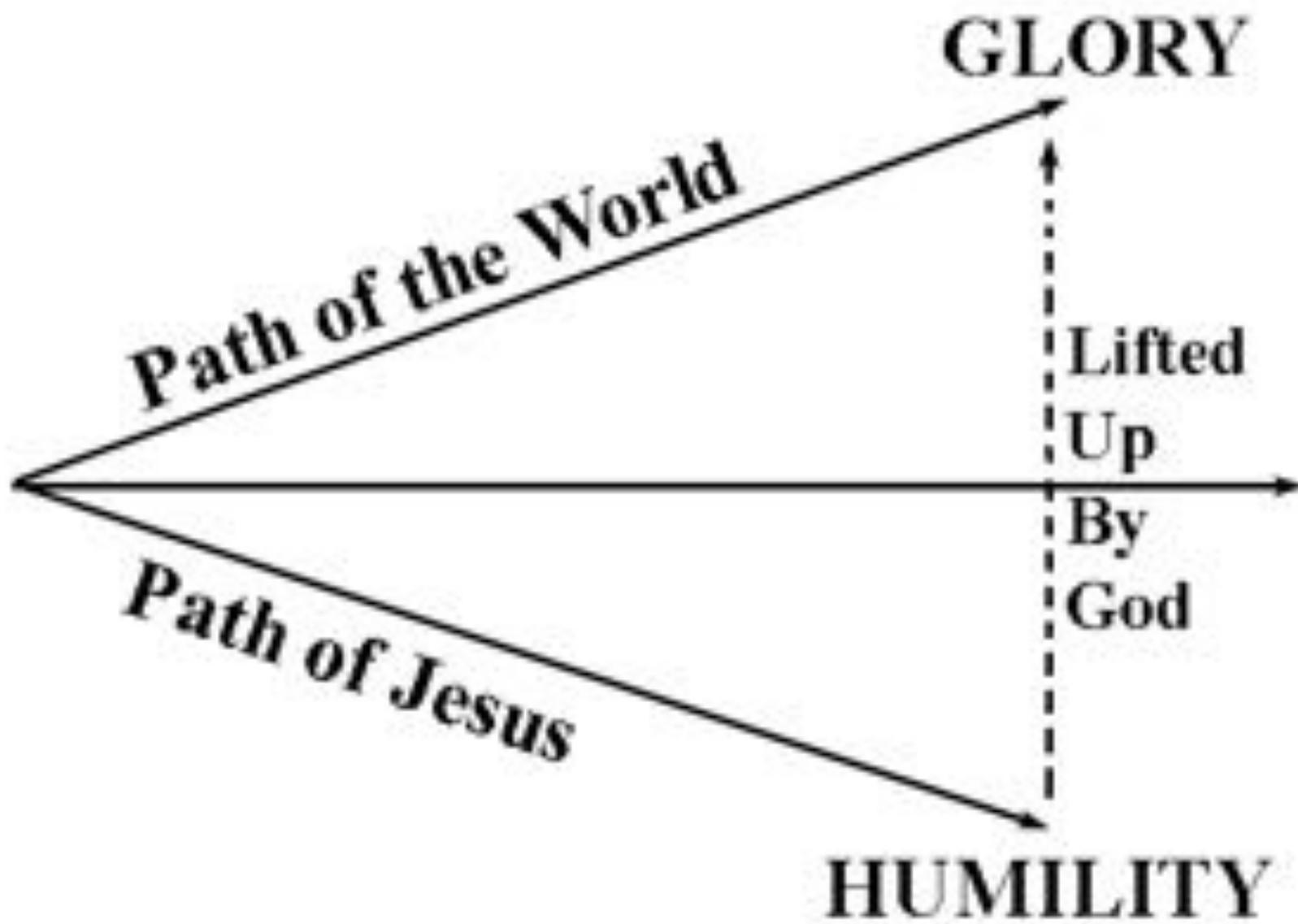


Joy #4

Joy in Humility



Luke 14:11 “For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”



# The Joy of being 3<sup>rd</sup> Violin in the Lord's orchestra!

Handel's Messiah Concert - 2016





# Joy #5

Working out your own  
Salvation



# Philippians 2:12

(rephrased for clarity)

“Continue to work out to completion your own gift of salvation, with humility and a healthy respect for the Lord.”

# How God works in us

molding us into instruments he can use

- ▶ 1.) Word of God
- ▶ 2.) Prayer
- ▶ 3.) Life experiences (often challenges)

# In Conclusion:

- ▶ #1 recognize that “It’s All Good”
- ▶ #2 find the hidden joy in your struggles
- ▶ #3 live in Unity
- ▶ #4 follow the example of Christ’s humility
- ▶ #5 continue working out your Salvation



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