

## Philippians 4:2 to 4:8

### I. Review

- 1) Paul warns of those who are “enemies of the cross of Christ” whose end is destruction, their god is their belly, and their glory is their shame.
- 2) In contrast to them he holds up those whose citizenship (hearts desire) is in heaven. We long for our Savior the Lord Jesus Christ, who saves us & who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by His power which enables Him to subject all things to Himself.
- 3) Paul calls the Philippians his “joy and crown” as the fruit of his ministry and challenges them to stand firm in the face of false teachers.

### I. Vs 2 Specific guidance for dealing with a conflict;

- A. He calls both Eudora and Syntyche to “agree in the Lord” (Common key to unity)
  - 1) Paul knows how destructive division in the church can be, and how it destroys our witness. Need something bigger than themselves to overcome disagreement.
- B. Vs 3 He asks of the church his “true companion” (disagree those think it is his wife) to:
  - 1) ESV footnote and E. Peterson “Syzbus”
    - 1) help this women (who labored side by side with Paul)
      - side by side with Paul, Clement, and rest of his coworkers
      - These coworkers he says “whose names are in the book of life”
    - \* Paul seems to have very high regard for both of these women who seem to have a dispute.

### II. Vs 4 Another reminder to “rejoice in the Lord always”

- A. Again he repeats it “rejoice”
  - 1) He knows rejoicing is a good counter to the selfishness and anger that often come along with division.
- \* Easier to hear this and trust it when it comes from someone in prison themselves, and who went through what he writes about himself in II Cor. 11.
  - Same reason Hebrews makes a big deal about Jesus being “tempted every way as we are in Hebrews 4:15

### III. Vs 5 Paul says to let their “reasonableness” be known to everyone

- A. This may be about trust and work ethic
  - 1) It is also similar to his letter to I Timothy 3:7 where he says elders ought to be well thought of by outsiders (witness).

IV. Vs 6 He says the “Lord is at hand” and then calls them to behaviors in light of this:

- 1) “Do not be anxious about anything”
- 2) “But in everything by prayer and supplication”
  - “with thanksgiving”
  - “let your requests be made known to God”

V. Vs 7 The result of handling things this way:

- 1) The peace of God
  - which surpasses all understanding
  - will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus

VI. Vs 8 He tells them to “think about these things” focus on these things:

- whatever is “true” (Lewis - )
- whatever is “honorable”
- whatever is “just”
- whatever is “pure”
- whatever is “lovely”
- whatever is “commendable”
- if there is any thing of “excellence”
- if there is any thing “worthy of praise”