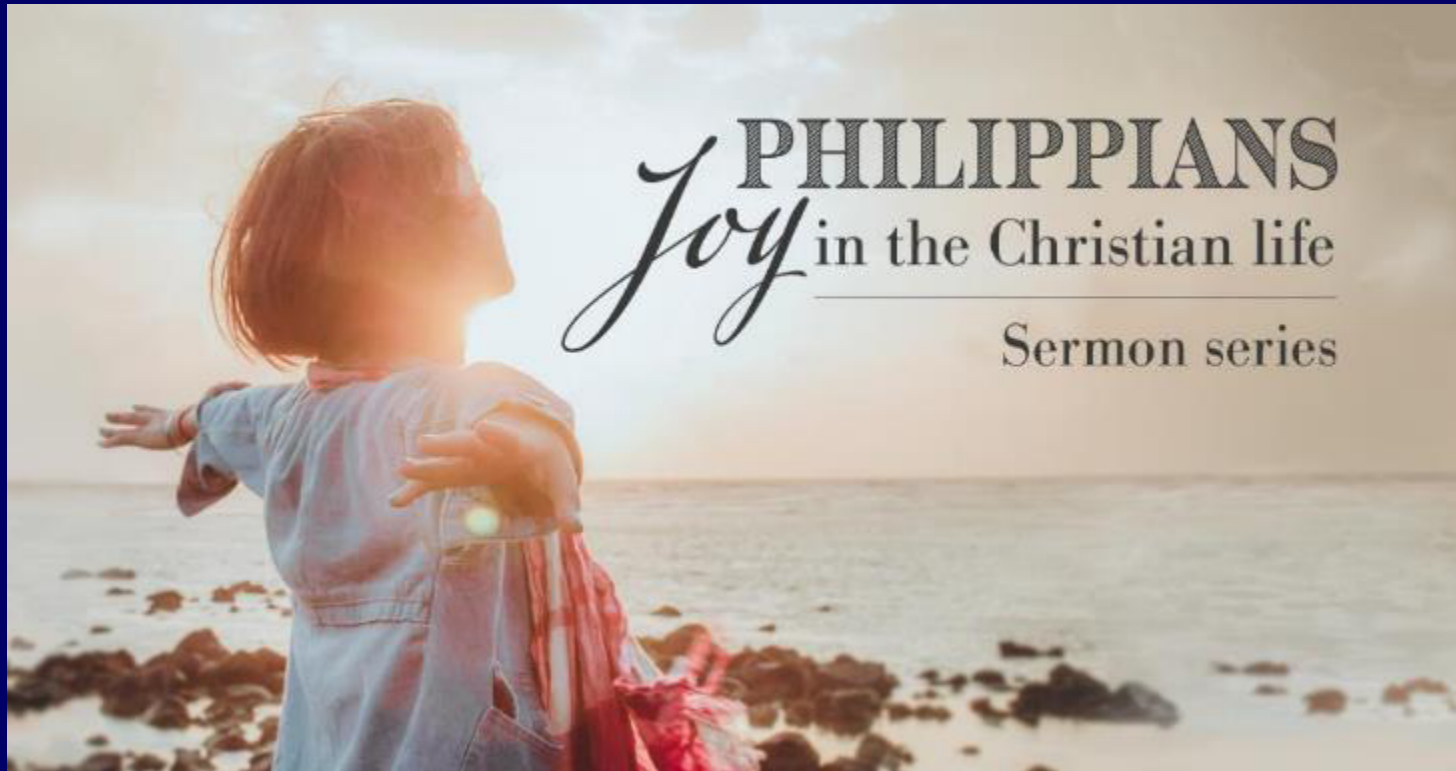


HOW TO FIND JOY IN THE CHRISTIAN LIFE



Dr. Andy Woods

Senior Pastor – Sugar Land Bible Church

President – Chafer Theological Seminary

Answering Ten Questions



- 1) Who wrote it? – **Paul**
- 2) To Whom was it written? – **The Believers at Philippi**
- 3) Where was it written from? – **Rome**
- 4) When was it written? – **A.D. 62**
- 5) What was the book's occasion? – **Five contacts**
- 6) Who are the opponents? – **Four opponents threatening joy**
- 7) What is the book's purpose? – **To give joy during adversity**
- 8) How is it organized (outline)? – **Four- part outline**
- 9) What is it about? – **Joy during adverstiy**
- 10) What makes the book different? – **Personal & informal**

Outline

- Ch 1 – God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results
- Ch 2 – Christ's example of servanthood
- Ch 3 – Avoiding legalism
- Ch 4 – Reliance upon Christ's strength for daily life



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4 Positive Results of Imprisonment

(Phil. 1:12-30)

1. Captive audience (Phil. 1:12-13)
2. Church's boldness in preaching (Phil. 1:14-18)
3. Greater prayer (Phil. 1:19)
4. Protection from martyrdom (Phil. 1:20-26)



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4 Examples of Humble Service

(Phil. 2)

1. Christ (Phil. 2:5-16)
2. Paul (Phil. 2:17-18)
3. Timothy (Phil. 2:19-24)
4. Epaphroditus (Phil. 2:25-30)



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Avoid Legalism

(Phil. 3)

1. Legalists vs. true believers (Phil. 3:1-3)
2. Paul's transition away from legalism (Phil. 3:4-14)
3. Other items to embrace in lieu of legalism (Phil. 3:15–4:3)



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Draw Upon the Divine Resources for Daily life

(Phil. 4)

- Peace (Phil. 4:4-9)
- Contentment (Phil. 4:10-13)
- Provision (Phil. 4:14-19)



Philippians 4:20-23

“²⁰ Now to our God and Father be the glory forever and ever. Amen. ²¹ Greet every saint in Christ Jesus. The brethren who are with me greet you. ²² All the saints greet you, especially those of Caesar’s household. ²³ The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.”



Matthew 5:18

“For truly I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not the smallest letter or stroke shall pass from the Law until all is accomplished.”



Matthew 4:4

“But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’”



Job 23:12

“I have not departed from the command of His lips; I have treasured the words of His mouth more than my necessary food.”



Conclusion

(Phil. 4:20–23)

- I. Doxology (Phil. 4:20)
- II. Greeting (Phil. 4:21-22)
- III. Benediction (Phil. 4:23)



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Matthew 7:21-23

“Not everyone who says to Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*.²² Many will say to Me on that day, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?’²³ And then I will declare to them, ‘I never knew [ginōskō] you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.’”



Three Tenses of Salvation

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Phase | Justification | Sanctification | Glorification |
| Tense | Past | Present | Future |
| Saved from sin's: | Penalty | Power | Presence |
| Scripture | Eph 2:8-9; Titus 3:5 | Philip 2:12 | Rom 5:10 |
| Nature | Single | Dual | Single |

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John 5:24

“Truly, truly [amēn, amēn], I say to you, he who hears My word, and believes Him who sent Me, has eternal life, and does not come into judgment, but has passed out of death into life.”



Dispensational Theology is a System of Theology

Traditional-normative dispensational theology is a system that embodies three essential, fundamental concepts called the **sine qua non** (lit. “without which is not”):

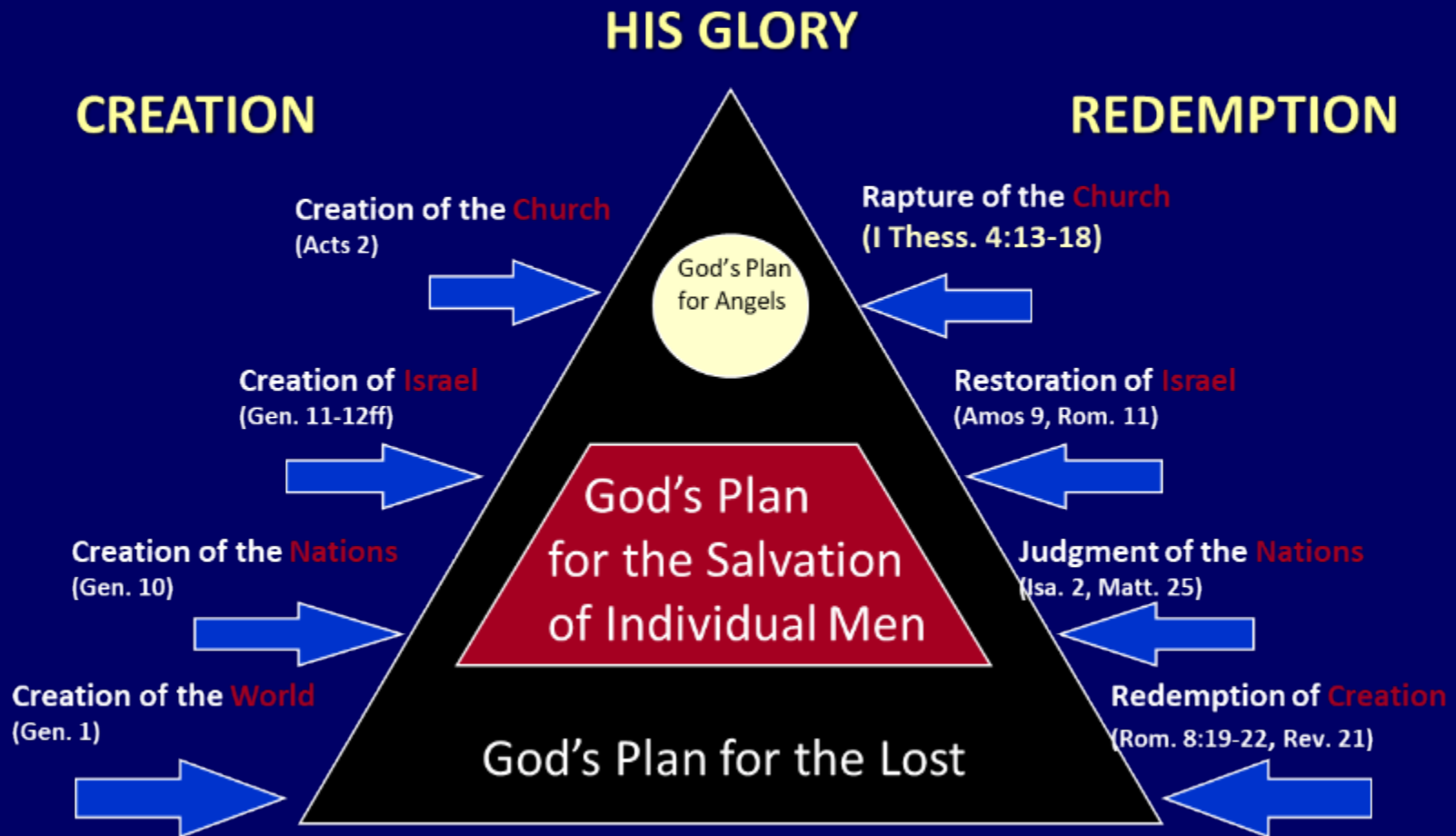
1. The **consistent** use of a plain, normal, literal, grammatical-historical method of interpretation;
2. Which reveals that the **Church is distinct from Israel**;
3. God’s overall purpose is to bring **glory to Himself** (Eph. 1:6, 12, 14).

Doxological Purpose

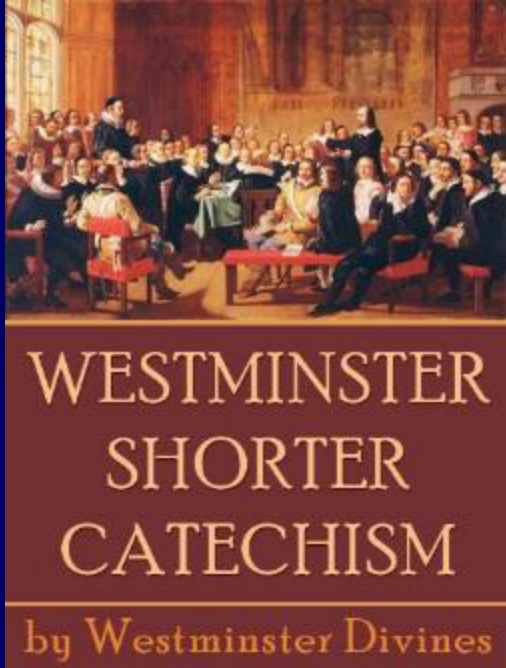
- A. God's ultimate purpose for the ages is to glorify Himself. Scripture is not human-centered, as though salvation were the principle point, but God-centered, because His glory is at the center.

- B. The glory of God is the primary principle that unifies all dispensations, the program of salvation being just one of the means by which God glorifies Himself. Each successive revelation of God's plan for the ages, as well as His dealing with the elect, non-elect, angels, and nations all manifest His glory.

THE FOCUS ON THE GLORY OF GOD IN DISPENSATIONALISM



Westminster Shorter Catechism



Q. 1. What is the chief end of man?

A. Man's chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy Him forever.

Conclusion

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Corinth

EPHESUS

Antioch

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Jerusalem

Philippi

Map by Gabriel Morris



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2 Peter 1:3-4

“³ Seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence. ⁴For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.”



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Message

Joy in the midst of adverse circumstances is possible as believers understand that God uses adversity to bring about positive results, follow Christ's example of servanthood, avoid legalism, and draw upon divine resources for daily life



Outline



CHAPTER 1

- God can use negative circumstances to bring about positive results

CHAPTER 2

- Christ's example of servanthood

CHAPTER 3

- Avoiding legalism

CHAPTER 4

- Reliance upon Christ's strength for daily life



“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.” (NIV)