**Philippians 3:1 -3**

**Focal Truth: Believer’s must watchfully rejoice in the Lord**

**Observations**

1. It is an act of faith to rejoice in the Lord - 3:1

Rejoice - chairo = be glad – it is an imperative

We rejoice and pray – 1:3

We rejoice as the gospel is spread regardless of the circumstances – 1:18

We rejoice for those who bless the church – 2:29

We rejoice in the care of the Lord for us – 4:10

We rejoice even in trials – Heb 10:34, James 1:2

1. It is the joy of believers to minister to others – 2:17 -18
2. It is the joy of believers to share their joy with others – 2:18
3. It is the joy of believers to always rejoice in the Lord – 4:4

1 Pet. 1:8 – you have not seen him, but you love Him. You do not see Him now but you believe in Him, and so you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy

1. Rejoicing in the Lord is protection for the believer – 3:1
2. Joyfully live watching for those who have impure minds – 3:2

Beware – blepo = to see, to use discernment

Dogs – kyon = metaphor for those of impure minds

Matt. 7:6 – do not give what is holy to dogs

1. Joyfully live watching for evil workers – 3:2

Evil workers – evil = kakos – bad in nature, troublesome, destructive

Rom 1:30 – inventors of evil

1 Cor. 15:33 – bad – kakos, company corrupts good morals

1. Joyfully live watching for false teachers – 3:2

Circumcision – katatome = to cut, mutilation

Col. 2:8 – see to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deception, according to the tradition of men, according to the elementary prinicples of the world, rather than according to Christ

1. Joyfully live worshipping in Spirit of God – 3:3

Worship – latreuo = serve, the word liturgy comes from this term.

Rom. 1:9 – for God, whom I serve in my spirit in the preaching of the gospel of His Son

Rom. 2:29 – but he is a Jew who is one inwardly, and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter and his praise is not from men, but from God

Col. 2:11 – 12 - and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of flesh by the circumcision of Christ. Having been buried with Him in baptism, in which also you were raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raise Him from the dead.

1. Joyfully live glorifying the Lord Jesus Christ – 3:3

Glory – kauchaomai = praise

1 Cor. 1:31 – He that glories, let him glory in the Lord

Glory in Christ Jesus – Lord, Savior, High Priest, King

1. Joyfully live without putting confidence in the flesh – 3:3

Confidence – peitho = persuade, make friends, win favor, to listen to

**Things to Remember**

1. Spiritual joy is like a medicine which comforts but also purifies
2. Spiritual joy makes a believer more holy
3. Spiritual joy is a safe guard against sin
4. Spiritual joy strengthens in all the circumstances of life
5. The joy of the Lord is your strength!
6. Spiritual joys are inward – heart joys – “your heart shall rejoice” John 16:22
7. Spiritual joys are sweeter than worldly joys – “your love is sweeter than wine!” Song of Solomon 4:10
8. Spiritual joys are satisfying – “ask that your joy may be full” John 16:11
9. Spiritual joys are eternal – “in your presence is abundant joy” Ps. 16:11
10. Spiritual joys on earth are just a taste of the eternal joy of heaven – “enter into the joy of your Lord” Matt. 25:23