

Hope and Joy in the Midst of Adversity
“Hope and Joy - It’s All About Location, Location, Location!”
Philippians 4:2-20 (page 816)

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Frank Mascaro

If the l o c a t i o n of my *hope* and *joy* is in J e s u s, then I can...

- S u r r e n d e r my “rights” in order to preserve u n i t y
(vs 2-3; Matt 5:23-24; 18:15; Rom 14:1-22; 1 Cor 8:13)
- T r u s t God in my t r o u b l e s (vs 4-7)
That means that I am to:
 - w o r r y about n o t h i n g (Isa 26:3)
 - p r a y about e v e r y t h i n g (Pet 5:7)
 - be t h a n k f u l for a n y t h i n g (1 Thess 5:18)
- Practice right t h i n k i n g and a c t accordingly (vs 8-9)
 - How I t h i n k determines how I will l i v e my life.
- Be c o n t e n t in a n y situation I find myself (vs 10-20)
Contentment...
 - is something that is l e a r n e d through e x p e r i e n c e (11-13)
 - allows me to be g e n e r o u s in g i v i n g to God’s work (14-17)
 - gives me c o n f i d e n c e in God’s care of my n e e d s (18-20)I am confident of...
 - √ The s o u r c e of my supply (*my God*)
 - √ The c e r t a i n t y of the supply (*shall supply*)
 - √ The f u l l n e s s of the supply (*all your need*)
 - √ The s t a n d a r d of the supply (according to His riches in glory)
- **Lessons from Philippians: Hope and joy are not found...**
 - in my c i r c u m s t a n c e s (1:7), but in my p e r s p e c t i v e (1:12)
 - in my s e l f i s h n e s s (2:4), but in h u m i l i t y (2:5,12)
 - in r e l i g i o n (3:2,3), but in r e l a t i o n s h i p (3:10)
 - in a c r a v i n g for this world (3:19), but in living with an e t e r n a l viewpoint (3:20,21)
 - in material w e a l t h (4:16,17), but in having J e s u s (4:13,19)

Making it stick...

Authentic hope and *lasting joy* come when we realize that God has a l r e a d y provided e v e r y t h i n g we need for our greatest h a p p i n e s s in life...it is found in C h r i s t!