

# Experiencing Joy No Matter What Comes

Philippians 1:12-26

**Introduction:** The book of Philippians is bursting with a message of overcoming joy in the midst of struggle and pain. It was written from the deep recesses of a dark, damp and musty Roman prison. Yet, it shines as a beacon of light to those of us who experience the unexplained traumas of life. Joy is a Christ-empowered optimism that operates regardless of circumstances because it is fixed on Christ's ultimate victory.

**God used three unlikely and painful circumstances to advance the Gospel and His purposes for Paul.**

1. Paul's chains advanced the Gospel. (vs. 12-14)
2. Paul's critics advanced God's purposes (vs. 15-19)
3. Paul's court crisis advanced God's glory. (vs. 19-26)

**Conclusion - Keep faith until the fog lifts**