

Philippians 4 : 1-13—Memory Verses, 6-8.

Golden Text—Rejoice in the LORD alway.—Phil. 4 : 4.

1 Therefore, my brethren, dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the LORD, *my* dearly beloved.

2 I beseech Euod'ias, and beseech Syn'tyche', that they be of the same mind in the LORD.

3 And I intreat thee also, true yokefellow, help those women which laboured with me in the gospel, with Clem'ent also, and *with* other my fellowlabourers, whose names *are* in the book of life.

4 Rejoice in the LORD alway : *and* again I say, Rejoice.

5 Let your moderation be known unto all men. The LORD *is* at hand.

6 Be careful for nothing ; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

7 And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Je'sus.

8 Finally, brethren, whatsoever things *are* true, whatsoever things *are* honest, whatsoever things *are* just, whatsoever things *are*

pure, whatsoever things *are* lovely, whatsoever things *are* of good report ; if *there be* any virtue, and if *there be* any praise, think on these things.

9 Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do : and the God of peace shall be with you.

10 But I rejoiced in the LORD greatly, that now at the last your care of me hath flourished again ; wherein ye were also careful, but ye lacked opportunity.

11 Not that I speak in respect of want : for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, *therewith* to be content.

12 I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound : every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

13 I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

THE LESSON RETOLD

Owing to the bad treatment he had received from the rulers of Philippi, Paul was left so badly off that it was with difficulty that he could go on with his journey.

Learning from others that he was in need, and to show their love for the man who had first brought them the gospel, the Christians of Philippi surprised Paul more than once by sending him a present of money together with many kind and loving messages.

We know that Paul always remembered the kind thoughtfulness of the people of Philippi for his welfare, because many years after he spoke of it when writing to them from Rome, when he had again been taken prisoner for the sake of the gospel.

To these Philippians whom Paul so much

loved that he called them his "joy and crown," he now wrote, beseeching them to let nothing that happened to him make them lose their faith in God.

"For," said the brave apostle, who had suffered such great hardships, "Whether I am hungry or not hungry is no matter, for I have learned in whatever state I am to be content. I can do all things through Christ who strengtheneth me. In this I have set you an example. Be anxious about nothing, but in everything let your requests be made known unto God in prayer, with thanksgiving. And let the peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

"Rejoice in the Lord alway, and again I