

The Joyful Journey
PART 13

The Joy of Fruitfulness (Part 1) - *Seeing God's Work*

Philippians 2:12-13

I. A Short History of a Timeless Tension...

II. Proposing a complete paradigm shift on the common interpretation of this passage:

Paul's Words are:

A Hope-filled call to Thrive in God's Grace

Not

An Intimidating or Threatening command to Maintain God's Approval

Not about the balance of God's part & Our part in Christian Growth

But

About the Transformation of becoming Captivated & Confident in God's Unaided Agenda for Us.

Paul wanted to avoid the very works-oriented result that we see so often today:

A. This is not about cultivating People's perceptions through performance - **v. 12a**

B. It is about comprehending God's passion and plan for our lives - **v. 12b**

III. What infuses a sense of reverence and expectancy into our Christian life and growth?

1. An Understanding & Appreciation of Our Salvation in Christ

Philippians 2:5-11, John 15:1-8

2. An Awareness of God's Unstoppable Agenda & Activity in Our Lives

Titus 2:11-14, Romans 8:29, Ephesians 2:8-10

3. The Effectiveness of God's Inside-out Approach to Our Lives

*The Willing & The Doing & The Relationship that God Pursues - **Titus 2:14, Psalm 37:5-7***

4. The Hope of God's Shared Joy

Like the difference between work and vocation in Earthly life is the difference between work and vocation in Spiritual life - The difference is Joy & Love.

Philippians 2:12-18

12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure.

14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain.

17 Yes, and if I am being poured out as a drink offering on the sacrifice and service of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. 18 For the same reason you also be glad and rejoice with me.

Breathe on Me Breath of God

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
fill me with life anew,
that I may love what thou dost love,
and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
until my heart is pure,
until with thee I will one will,
to do and to endure.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
till I am wholly thine,
till all this earthly part of me
glows with thy fire divine.

Breathe on me, Breath of God,
so shall I never die,
but live with thee the perfect life
of thine eternity.