**The Study of Philippians: A Discourse in Joy**

**Joy and Adversity - Philippians 1:12-26**

**Hermeneutics**: The methodology of interpretation

**Exegesis**: The critical interpretation of a text, drawing out the text’s meaning.

**Expositional preaching**: The presentation of the biblical text.

“*When the plain sense of scripture makes common sense, seek no other sense; therefore, take every word at its primary, ordinary, usual, literal meaning unless the facts of the immediate context indicate clearly otherwise*.” Dr. David L Cooper

**The forging of the gospel:**

*"12 I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, 13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. 14 And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.”* (Philippians 1:12–14)

Paul’s motive in sharing his hardship. (1:12)

The forging of the gospel. (1:12)

Two ways the gospel was forged. (1:13-14)

1. Paul’s positive response encouraged people toward Christ.
2. Paul’s positive response encouraged boldness in the sharing of the gospel.

**Two types of preachers and Paul’s response:**

*“15 Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. 16 The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice,”*

(Philippians 1:15–18)

**Type one**: Envy, rivalry, strife, and pretense.

They’re jealous of Paul and seek to create strife through pretense.

**Type two**: Goodwill, love, and truth.

They value Paul and love the truth and want to see the ministry expand.

**Paul’s response**: He avoided the temptation to personalize the bad behavior of others so that he might see the good coming from this adversity, i.e., the gospel is being preached.

You will fail to live with joy if you:

1. Personalize the bad behavior of others.
2. Fail to see the way God is using your adversaries.
3. Fail to rejoice today intentionally.

**Principle**: When you, in this moment, step into joy intentionally, you will create a future filling of joy in your life. *(“…I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice.”* Philippians 1:18)