

Read Philippians 4:4-9

ILL – Scene from The Guardian... Being rescue from imminent death...We leave... they die

We are a people who should be characterized by rejoicing in Christ.

- Repetitive theme throughout Philippians (2:18, and 3:1)
 - Like the Hebrew emphasis
- This is our strength
- Defiant joy

Our visible different lifestyle is a visible witness to the world and encouragement to believers

Let your reasonableness be known to everyone.

Three Thieves of Rejoicing

1. Carrying and controlling the world

- The reason we are anxious is because we are busying carrying and controlling the world
 - The reason we need not be anxious is because the Lord is near – close, comforting, in control.
 - See Matthew 6:25-34
 - God is never anxious about you, your life, or your future.
- The cure is prayer – note the prayer posture as a reflection of our heart – being knighted.
- Result of resting in Christ is the Peace of God guarding your hearts and minds from the debilitating effects of anxiousness.

2. Ungodly Minds

Finally, brothers,

whatever is true, honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable,
if there is any excellence, anything worthy of praise,
think about these things.

ILL – about mowing lawn

3. Ungodly lives

What you have

learned, received, heard, and seen in me

—practice these things,

and the God of **peace will be with you.**

