

PHIL. 1:12–30: JOY THROUGH CHRIST

- 1) Prayer
- 2) Fellowship
- 3) Proclaiming the Gospel (with joy!)
- 4) Suffering (with joy!)

By John Williamson

THE FOUR COMPONENTS OF PRAYER

The Acronym: **CATS**

- 1) Confession
- 2) Adoration
- 3) Thanksgiving
- 4) Supplication

ADORATION – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) The act of paying honor, as to a divine being; worship
- 2) Reverent homage.
- 3) Fervent and devoted love.

ADORATION – WHAT IS IT?

Simply put: In prayer, adoration is telling God how great He is. Especially making reference to His characteristics/actions recorded in the Bible.

ADORATION – AN EXAMPLE FROM DANIEL

- ✘ Dan. 2:20 Daniel said, “Let the name of God be blessed forever and ever, For wisdom and power belong to Him.
- ✘ Dan. 2:21 “It is He who changes the times and the epochs; He removes kings and establishes kings; He gives wisdom to wise men And knowledge to men of understanding.
- ✘ Dan. 2:22 “It is He who reveals the profound and hidden things; He knows what is in the darkness, And the light dwells with Him.
- ✘ Dan. 2:23 “To You, O God of my fathers, I give thanks and praise, For You have given me wisdom and power; Even now You have made known to me what we requested of You, For You have made known to us the king’s matter.”

THANKSGIVING – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) the act of giving thanks; grateful acknowledgment of benefits or favors, especially to God.
- 2) an expression of thanks, especially to God.
- 3) a public celebration in acknowledgment of divine favor or kindness.
- 4) a day set apart for giving thanks to God.

Note the use of the word being defined as part of the definition*

THANKSGIVING – WHAT IS IT?

Simply put: In prayer, thanksgiving is telling God what He's done for you.

Put another way thanksgiving is enumerating some of the reasons you have to be grateful to God.

Note: Paul's prayer of Philippians 1:3-11 is a prayer of thanksgiving.

SUPPLICATION – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) An act or instance of supplicating*;
- 2) humble prayer, entreaty, or petition.

Note the use of the word being defined as part of the definition*

SUPPLICATION – WHAT IS IT?

Simply put: In prayer, supplication is asking God for something.

This is the meat of most prayers and is the major reason most people pray.

SUPPLICATION - AN EXAMPLE FROM DAVID

- ✘ Ps 31:14 But as for me, I trust in You, O LORD, I say, “You are my God.”
- ✘ Ps 31:15 My times are in Your hand; Deliver me from the hand of my enemies and from those who persecute me.
- ✘ Ps 31:16 Make Your face to shine upon Your servant; Save me in Your lovingkindness.
- ✘ Ps 31:17 Let me not be put to shame, O LORD, for I call upon You; Let the wicked be put to shame, let them be silent in Sheol.
- ✘ Ps 31:18 Let the lying lips be mute, Which speak arrogantly against the righteous With pride and contempt.

FELLOWSHIP – DICTIONARY.COM

- 1) the condition or relation of being a fellow:
- 2) friendly relationship; companionship:
- 3) community of interest, feeling, etc.
- 4) communion, as between members of the same church.

KOINΩNIA (FELLOWSHIP) – BDAG

- 1) close association involving mutual interests and sharing, association, communion, fellowship, close relationship
- 2) attitude of good will that manifests an interest in a close relationship, generosity, fellow-feeling, altruism
- 3) sign of fellowship, proof of brotherly unity
- 4) participation, sharing

FELLOWSHIP – 1 JOHN 1:3–7

- ✘ 1 Jn 1:3 what we have seen and heard we proclaim to you also, so that you too may have *fellowship* with us; and indeed our *fellowship* is with the Father, and with His Son Jesus Christ.
- ✘ 1 Jn 1:4 These things we write, so that our joy may be made complete.

FELLOWSHIP – 1 JOHN 1:3-7

- ✘ 1 Jn 1:5 This is the message we have heard from Him and announce to you, that God is Light, and in Him there is no darkness at all.
- ✘ 1 Jn 1:6 If we say that we have *fellowship* with Him and yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth;
- ✘ 1 Jn 1:7 but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have *fellowship* with one another, and the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.

TWO KINDS OF FELLOWSHIP IN 1 JOHN

- 1) Horizontal – fellowship with believers
- 2) Vertical – fellowship with God

HORIZONTAL & VERTICAL FELLOWSHIP

Question: Which type of fellowship is primary?

Answer: Fellowship with God (vertical) comes first. We can experience fellowship with believers (horizontal) through having fellowship with God.

Or put another way, we can have horizontal fellowship with another person through both parties having vertical fellowship with God.

FELLOWSHIP – WITH DEMONS ...

- ✘ 1 Cor. 10:20 No, but I say that the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to demons and not to God; and I do not want you to become sharers [κοινωνός] in demons.

Note: Fellowship with demons is both possible and very BAD

FELLOWSHIP – LIGHT AND DARKNESS

- ✘ 2 Cor. 6:14 Do not be bound together with unbelievers; for what partnership have righteousness and lawlessness, or what fellowship has light with darkness?
- ✘ 2 Cor. 6:15 Or what harmony has Christ with Belial, or what has a believer in common with an unbeliever?
- ✘ 2 Cor. 6:16 Or what agreement has the temple of God with idols?

FELLOWSHIP – THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ✘ 2 Cor. 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

Note: Fellowship is a ministry of the Holy Spirit

FELLOWSHIP – THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ✘ Philippians 2:1 Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if there is any consolation of love, if there is any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion,

Note: Fellowship is a ministry of the Holy Spirit

FELLOWSHIP – DR. ROBERT L. DEAN, JR.

There we see that fellowship is not social life with Christians. Christian fellowship is based first on a relationship with God, based on right doctrine, and it results in right behavior. Christian fellowship, therefore, is not sitting around and having a good social time with other believers, but Christian fellowship is that which is specifically centered around the person of Christ.

PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL (WITH JOY!)

- ✘ Philippians 1:12 Now I want you to know, brethren, that my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel,
- ✘ Philippians 1:13 so that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else,
- ✘ Philippians 1:14 and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.

PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL (WITH JOY!)

- ✘ Philippians 1:15 Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from envy and strife, but some also from good will;
- ✘ Philippians 1:16 the latter do it out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel;
- ✘ Philippians 1:17 the former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition rather than from pure motives, thinking to cause me distress in my imprisonment.

PROCLAIMING THE GOSPEL (WITH JOY!)

- ✘ Philippians 1:18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice,
- ✘ Philippians 1:19 for I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,
- ✘ Philippians 1:20 according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I will not be put to shame in anything, but that with all boldness, Christ will even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

- ✘ Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.
- ✘ Philippians 1:22 But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose.

SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

- ✘ Philippians 1:23 But I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for that is very much better;
- ✘ Philippians 1:24 yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake.

SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

- ✘ Philippians 1:25 Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith,
- ✘ Philippians 1:26 so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.

SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

- ✘ Philippians 1:27 Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I will hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;
- ✘ Philippians 1:28 in no way alarmed by your opponents—which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God.

SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

- ✘ Philippians 1:29 For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake,
- ✘ Philippians 1:30 experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.

SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

Question: In Phil. 1:29–30, what has been granted to us?

Answer: 1) To believe in Him (Christ)

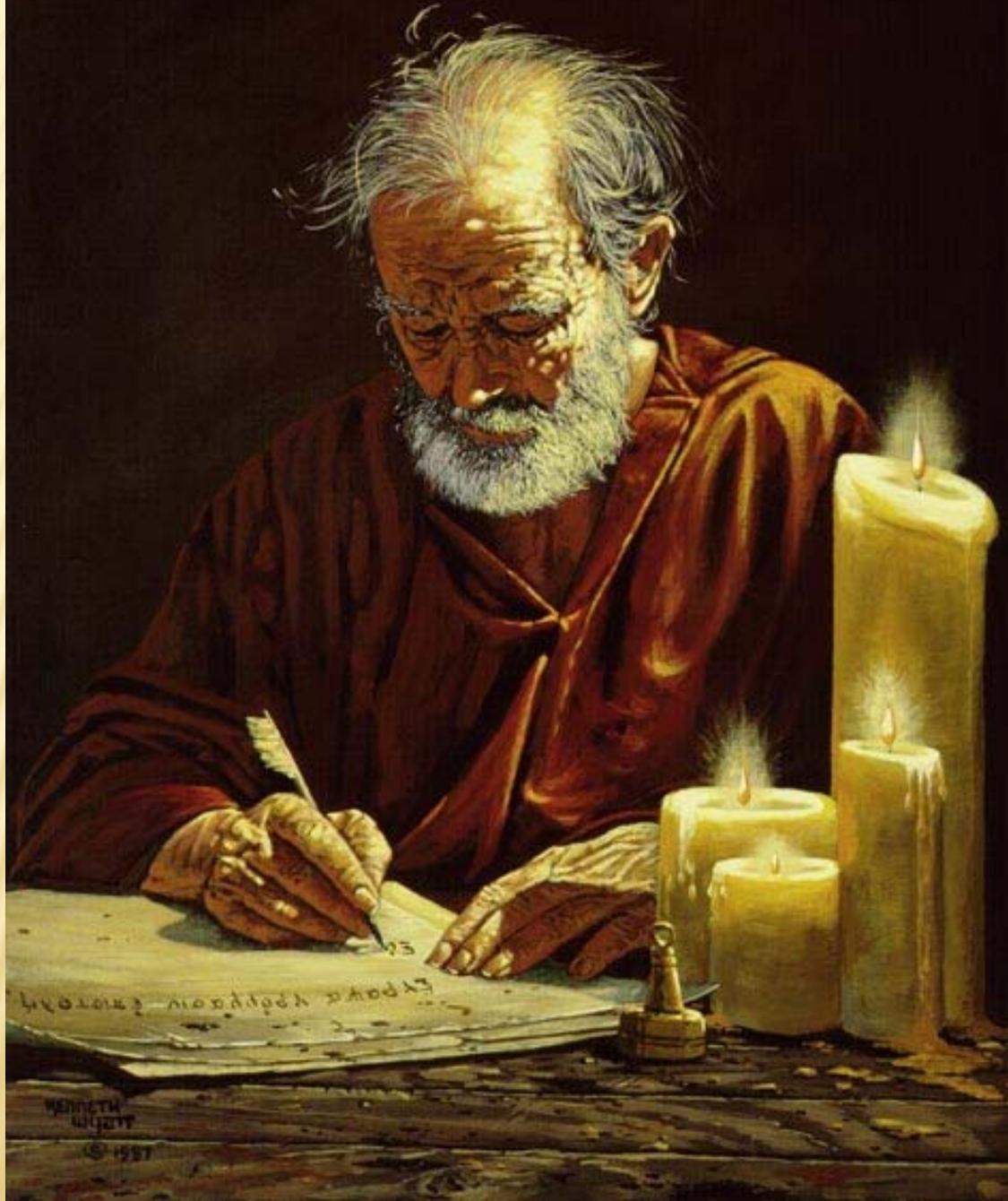
2) Suffer for His (Christ's) sake

SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

Question: In Phil. 1:29–30, Who are the recipients of these gifts compared to?

Answer: Paul

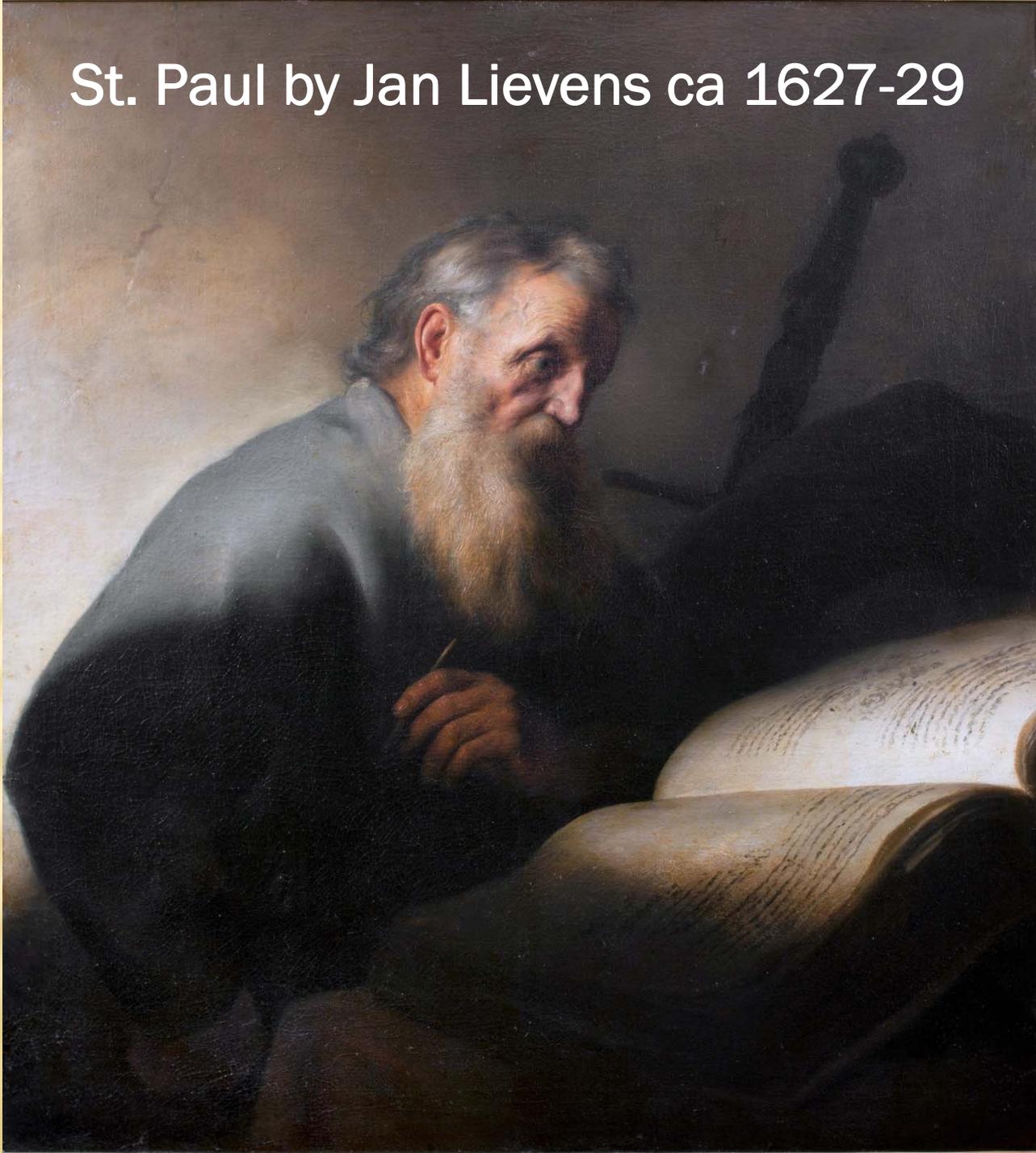
Paul by Kenneth Wyatt - 1987



SUFFERING – PAUL

- ✘ Acts 9:13 But Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he did to Your saints at Jerusalem;
- ✘ Acts 9:14 and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name.”
- ✘ Acts 9:15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;
- ✘ Acts 9:16 for I will show him how much he must suffer for My name’s sake.”

St. Paul by Jan Lievens ca 1627-29



PAUL – HIS SUFFERING 2 COR. 11:24–28

Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine *lashes*. Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep. *I have been* on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from *my* countrymen, dangers from the Gentiles, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; *I have been* in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. Apart from *such* external things, there is the daily pressure on me *of* concern for all the churches.

PAUL – RESCUED FROM LIONS 2 TIM. 4:17



"and I was rescued out of the lion's mouth."

IGNATIUS OF ANTIOCH MARTYRED BY LIONS



SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

Question: What is Paul's response to suffering for the sake of Christ?

Answer: Joy

Philippians 1:18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice. Yes, and I will rejoice,

SUFFERING (WITH JOY!)

Question: What should be our response to suffering for the sake of Christ?

Answer: Joy

James 1:2 Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials,