

THIEVES OF JOY

FILIPENSES 4.4

It is command = rejoice

It is for all Christians = rejoice

It is above circumstances = ALWAYS;

It is focus in the right person (not in things or, people) = IN THE LORD..

Psalm 30: 5, Psalm 16: 11, Galatians 5: 22

**LET'S IDENTIFY
SOME OF THESE
THIEVES.**

I. CIRCUMSTANCES CAN BE A THIEF OF JOY

- **Genesis 23:2; 2 Samuel 3:32, Acts 8:2**

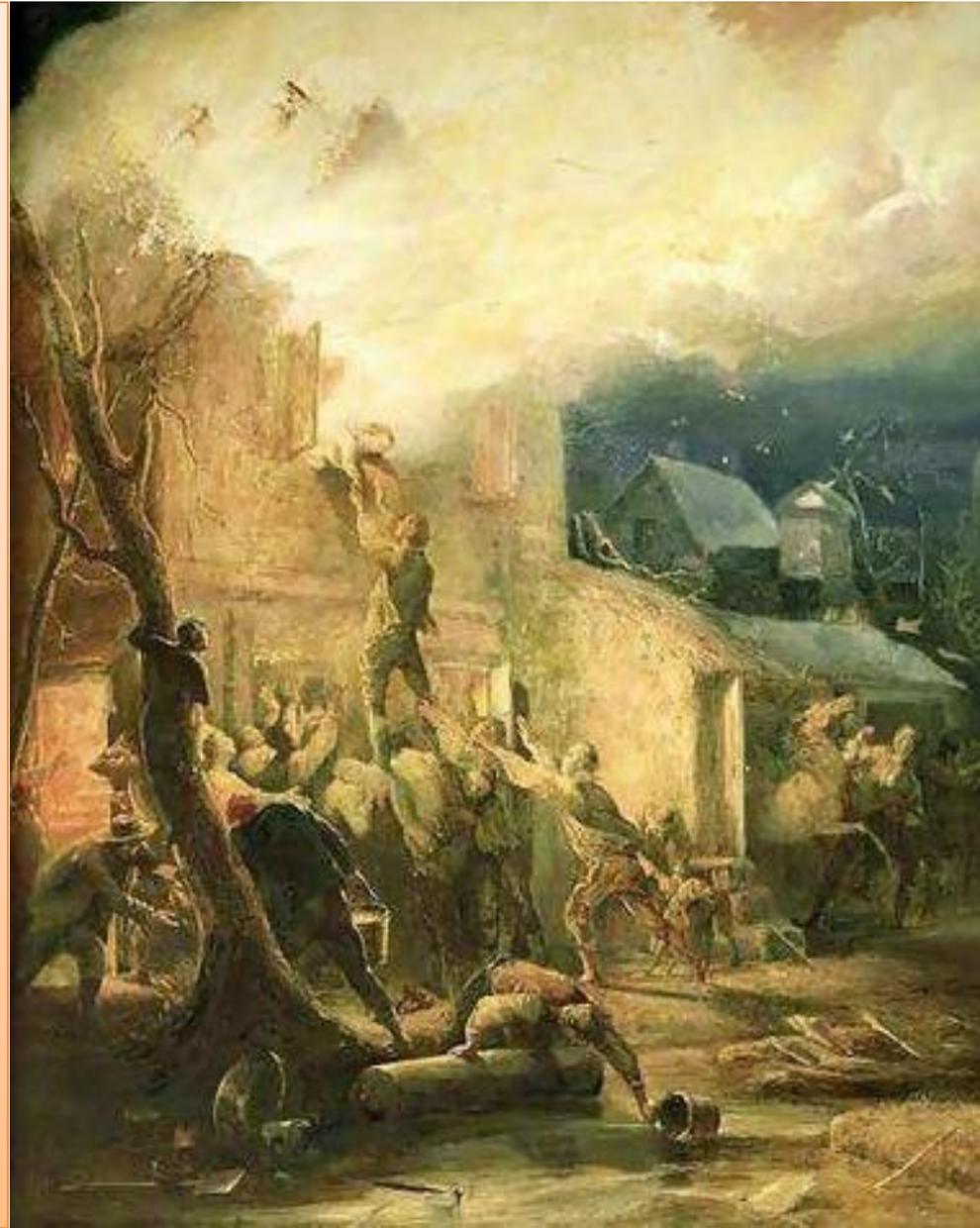


II. DISLOYALTY CAN BE A THIEF OF JOY

- Psalm 41: 9, Psalm 55:12-14

III. POSSESSIONS CAN BE A THIEF OF JOY

- *Eccles. 2: 10, 17-23*
- *“I gave myself everything my eyes wanted. There wasn’t any pleasure that I refused to give myself. I took delight in everything I did. So I hated life. That’s because the work done on this earth made me sad. None of it has any meaning.*



IV. ANXIETY IS A THIEF OF JOY

- **MATHEW 8: 24 – LUKE 10: 40-41**

THE WEAPONS TO OVERCOME THESE THIEVES

- **Pray correctly**
- *“Do not be anxious about anything, but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.”* Philippians 1: 6

- *A charred Bible found under rubble on the grounds of the rectory at Epworth may have belonged to the Wesleys and survived the fire.*
- *Photo by Joe Iovino, United Methodist Communications.*



Think correctly

- *“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things.” Phil 4: 8*

REMEMBER GOD’S MIRACLES AND BLESSINGS OF THE PAST

- *Psalms 77:11-12 Psalm 105:5*

MOVE ON IN PURPOSE OF GOD FOR YOUR FUTURE

- *Phil 3: 13-14: Isaiah 43: 18-19 “*
- *MOSES - Deuteronomy 34:8*
- *ABRAHAM Genesis 25: 1-2*
- *JESUS’ DISCIPLES –Luke 9: 59-60*

Act correctly

- I am not saying this because I am in need, for I have learned to be content whatever the circumstances. I know what it is to be in need, and I know what it is to have plenty. I have learned the secret of being content in any and every situation, whether well fed or hungry, whether living in plenty or in want. I can do all this through him who gives me strength.
Philippians 1: 11-13
- Habakkuk 3: 17-18