



AFFECTIONATE AND
PRAYERFUL JOY
PHILIPPIANS 1:7-11
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I. Introduction

True joy, as understood from Scripture is directly related to God. It's what you receive by virtue of your salvation. It is a permanent possession of every single believer. It's not a chance. It's not a maybe. It's a reality for eternity.

II. Thankful Affection (vv. 7-8)

- a. Affection is the NORMAL for Christians
- b. The Spirit of God is the guarantor of joy for Christians

III. Abounding Affections (v. 9)

- a. What do I really pray for? (God's priorities or mine?)
- b. Praying for godly knowledge and discernment

IV. Excellent Affection (vv. 10-11)

- a. Excellence matters to God
- b. Our ultimate purpose—to bear spiritual fruit for Christ

V. Conclusion

Church, our spiritual maturity as believers is best seen in how often we are moved to pray by a strong love for the Lord, for his word, and for others. Our hearts are what really speak through our prayers. When love abounds, the passionate expression and desire for spiritual excellence leads to a life guided by prayerful affection and joyful integrity, which leads to authentic good works, honoring Christ.