

Mini-Series: Growing in Power
Spiritual Stability Pt.1
(Harmony, Joy, Contentment, and Faith)
Philippians 4:1-3

Introduction:

Spiritual Stability – is when we don't collapse under persecution or compromise truth, or fail under testing and complaining, or yield to temptation and sin.

3 sources which attack the Spiritual Stability of the Church: * *The World*, * *The Flesh*, and * *Satan*

I. A Pastor's deep Love for the Church v.1a

- a. My beloved brethren showed Paul's gracious and loving Pastoral heart
- b. He showed cared before he corrected
- c. He had a special and unique love for the Philippians

II. The Church is the Pastor's Joy v.1b

- a. His circumstances had no bearing on his joy
- b. Paul's joy was in the people of the Church
1 Thess 2:19-20

III. The Church is the Pastor's Crown v.1c

- a. Philippians was Paul's crown, not a royal crown but a wreath of honor
- b. They were the proof of Paul's effective service 1 Cor 9:2
- c. The Church is the evidence of the Pastor's labor 2 Cor 3:2-3

IV. Instructions on How to Stand Firm v.1d

- a. Paul gives 7 principles that lead to Spiritual Stability vss. 2-9
- b. The 1st of which is Harmony in the Church

Please Turn Over

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V. Harmony in the Church vss. 2-3

- a. The Church should be a place where:
 - i. *People support each other*
 - ii. *Hold each other accountable*
 - iii. *And care for each other*
- b. Any threat to the Churches unity must be addressed
- c. Scriptures teach us unity in the Church is to be preserved in the bond of peace Eph 4:3

VI. Euodia and Syntche v.2a

- a. They were members of the Church not outside troublemakers
- b. They were prominent women in the Church

VII. Live in Harmony v.2b

- a. Paul's solution to their quarrel was simple and direct. Live in harmony in the Lord
- b. Paul knew if they got right with the Lord, they would be right with each other.

VIII. Godly Help v.3a

- a. Paul called on a godly man in the Church to assist these ladies in reconciling.

IX. Even the Mature in Faith Need Help v.3b

- a. These women had worked alongside Paul in the ministry. Mature in faith but still imperfect

X. Names in the Book of Life v.3c

- b. Many of the names who served with Paul didn't make it in the book of Philippians, but that didn't matter for they were captured in the God's Book of Life...