

**Dear Church: Twisted Scripture Part 2**  
**Philippians 4:13 I Can do All Things**  
**A Bible study for individuals, groups or classes**

**Background scripture:**

Philippians 4:13 - I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

**Podcast Sections:**

01:19 Problems with how this verse is interpreted  
02:07 Parable of the talents – not everyone has the same abilities  
02:52 Verse sometimes exploited by prosperity movement  
04:43 Who's side is God really on?  
07:06 What God cares about  
07:33 The passage in context  
08:54 Purpose of the passage  
15:27 Happiness is not our goal. A better goal is joy.  
17:38 We are living for a time to come  
19:07 Godliness benefits us now and in the life to come  
23:34 We learn how to be content in our circumstances  
26:11 Suffering is a part of our existence  
29:03 Consequences of treating the passage as a promise of prosperity

**Discussion questions:**

1. Discuss how you have heard Philippians 4:13 used in the past.
2. Compare the common view of Philippians 4:13 with Matthew 24:9-11, Matthew 26:39 and II Timothy 2:3 (below).
3. How can an incorrect view of Philippians 4:13 wreck a Christian's life (discussed at 29:03)? Have you seen this happen to others?
4. How does godliness benefit us in both this life and in the life to come (I Tim 4:7-10 below, discussed at 19:07)?
5. Do you agree that joy is a better goal than happiness (discussed at 15:27)?

**Scriptures related to this study**

Daniel 3:17-18 (referenced at 6:32)

17 If this be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of your hand, O king. 18 But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods or worship the golden image that you have set up."

Matthew 24:9-14 9

“Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and put you to death, and you will be hated by all nations for my name's sake. 10 And then many will fall away[a] and betray one another and hate one another. 11 And many false prophets will arise and lead many astray. 12 And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold. 13 But the one who endures to the end will be saved. 14 And this gospel of the kingdom will be proclaimed throughout the whole world as a testimony to all nations, and then the end will come.

Matthew 26:39

And going a little farther he fell on his face and prayed, saying, “My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.”

Philippians 4:4-7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness[d] be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:11-13

11 Not that I am speaking of being in need, for I have learned in whatever situation I am to be content. 12 I know how to be brought low, and I know how to abound. In any and every circumstance, I have learned the secret of facing plenty and hunger, abundance and need. 13 I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

I Tim 4:7-10

7 Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths. Rather train yourself for godliness; 8 for while bodily training is of some value, godliness is of value in every way, as it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. 9 The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance. 10 For to this end we toil and strive, because we have our hope set on the living God, who is the Savior of all people, especially of those who believe.

Ii Tim 2:3 3

Share in suffering as a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

***All scriptures are from The Holy Bible: English Standard Version. (2016). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.***