Working Together, Rejoicing Together Philippians 4:1-5

Stand firm in the Lord. 4:1

*This appeal repeats 1:27, where the issue was also unity (one mind).

*My Joy: 2:2, I Thess. 3:8,9, II Tim. 1:4, III Jn. 4. Who's your joy?

*My crown: victor's crown, II Thess. 2:19,20. What does this suggest?

Ladies, get along and get on the same page. 4:2

*Who were these gals and what caused the all the drama? See Acts 16:13-15,40. Cf. Lk. 10:38-42, Acts. 15:36-40.

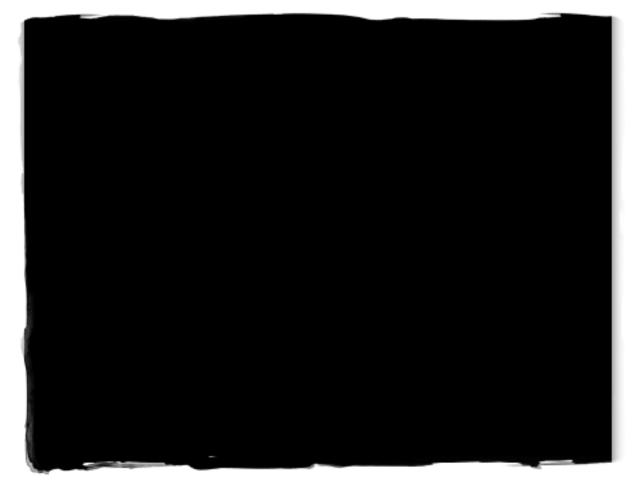
*Paul takes no sides (urges both) but again pushes a singular *mindset*, as in 1:27, 2:2, 5, 3:15. Why important?

True Comrade, help these ladies get along. 4:3

*Sometimes we need a mediator (I Cor. 6:5). But whom? *A big reason for unity is our future together--*Book of Life*: Ex. 32:32,33, Dan. 12:1, (7x in Rev.), similar to Lk. 10:20.

Here we get several commands not necessarily linked. Our focus will be on the idea of joy (3x) and again a plea for unity (same mind-set).

Conflict to resolve



Rejoice in the Lord. 4:4

*Rejoicing has been ever modeled for them, 1:17,18, Acts 16:25.

*Rejoicing is again urged, 2:18, 3:1. See Rom. 14:17, I Thess. 5:16.

Be gracious to all. 4:5

*This = gracious fair-mindedness (opposite of retaliatory), II Cor. 10:1.

*Why be gracious? *The Lord is near* = as in Ps. 145:18 or Rom. 13:12.