

McCoy Memorial Baptist Church

Date: September 20, 2020

Summer Quarter: The Book of Philippians: Rejoice!

Text: Philippians 1:12-30

#### INTRODUCTION:

- 1) More than anything else, Paul's desire as a missionary was to preach the Gospel in \_\_\_\_\_ (cp. Acts 19:21; Rom. 1:15)
- 2) Paul wanted to go to Rome as a \_\_\_\_\_, but instead he went as a \_\_\_\_\_ (see 1:12; cp. Acts 21:17-28:31).
- 3) To many, all this would have looked like \_\_\_\_\_, but not to Paul. His circumstances "served to \_\_\_\_\_ the gospel."
- 4) God still wants His children to take the Gospel into new areas; & God sometimes uses \_\_\_\_\_ tools to help us pioneer the Gospel.

#### THE PROGRESS OF THE GOSPEL (1:12-18)

"What has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel" (v.12)

1. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ (vvs. 13, 14)  
Because of them, Christ was \_\_\_\_\_!  
A. Paul's chains gave \_\_\_\_\_ with the lost.  
B. Paul's chains gave \_\_\_\_\_ to the saved.
2. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 15-17)  
Because of them, Christ was \_\_\_\_\_!
3. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 18)  
Four elements of Paul's joy in ministry (vvs. 12-26) . . .
  - He was joyful in spite of \_\_\_\_\_;  
as long as Christ's cause progressed (vvs. 12-14)
  - He was joyful in spite of \_\_\_\_\_;  
as long as Christ's name was proclaimed (vvs. 15-18)
  - He was joyful in spite of \_\_\_\_\_;  
as long as the Lord was glorified/magnified (vvs. 19-21)
  - He was joyful in spite of remaining in the \_\_\_\_\_;  
as long as the church was benefited (vvs. 22-26)

## THE PROSPECT OF PAUL'S RELEASE (1:19-26)

### 1. "My deliverance" (lit. "salvation" = σωτηρία *sōtēria*)

- A. By your prayers
- B. By the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ

"Deliverance" is from the basic Gr. term for salvation. But it can also be rendered "well-being" or "escape," which presents 4 possible interpretations: 1) Paul's ultimate salvation; 2) deliverance from threatened execution; 3) his vindication by the emperor's ruling; or 4) Paul is talking about his eventual release from prison. Whatever Paul's precise meaning, he was certain he would be freed from his temporary distress. **[MacArthur]**

### 2. "Christ *will be exalted* in my body, whether by life or by death." "will be exalted" - future pass. indicative fr. **μεγαλύνω *megalúnō***

"The believer's body is a lens that makes a little Christ look very big, and a distant Christ come very close." - Warren Wiersbe

"When you magnify like a telescope, you make something unimaginably great look like what it really is." - John Piper

### 3. "To live is Christ, to die is gain" (vs. 21)

Why is death gain ("better by far" vs. 23) for a Christian?

- A. Because death takes us \_\_\_\_\_.
- B. Because death ends our \_\_\_\_\_.
- C. Because death unites us with \_\_\_\_\_.
- D. Because death re-unites us with our \_\_\_\_\_ loved ones.

## PAUL'S CHALLENGE TO THE CHURCH (1:27-30)

There are 3 essentials for victory in the battle to defend "the faith"

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 27a)
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ (vs. 27b)
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ (vvs. 28-30)

## APPLYING THE TEXT

- 1. God is in the \_\_\_\_\_! See Eph. 3:1; Philem. 1, 9.
- 2. God is \_\_\_\_\_ to something \_\_\_\_\_! See Gen. 50:20.