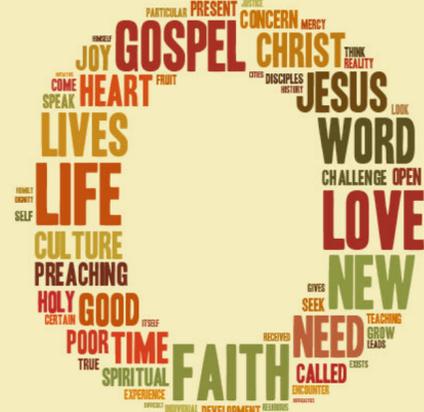


Philippians

*Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ,
unto the glory and praise of God. Phil 1:11*

The way to find



is to be filled



with fruits of righteousness

Thoughts from last week:



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1. Who are the “Pauls” in your life? Past / Present [mentors/role models]

2. Is your glass half empty or half full? And what is the real question?

Watch: <https://reasonsforhopeJesus.com/thanksgiving-glass-empty-full/>

As believers, our glad is full because we are filled with Jesus by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit.

3. How is God at work in a believer’s life according to verse 6 and 9-11?

And how does this make you feel about uncertainties in your life?

vs 6: God works in our lives and He will complete His work in us when we are bodily resurrected and glorified. This produces confidence in us.

vs 9: With knowledge of God’s Word comes wisdom (judgment/discernment) and our love will abound.

vs 10: God enables us to live justly (approve things, be sincere) with kindness (without offence) because He fills us “with fruits of righteousness.” (vs 11)

Phil 1:6 being confident of this very thing, that He who has begun a good work in you **will complete it** until the day of Jesus Christ;

Phil 1:9 And this I pray, that your **love may abound** still more and more **in knowledge and all discernment**,

Phil 1:10 that **you may approve the things that are excellent**, that you may **be sincere and without offense** till the day of Christ,

Phil 1:11 being filled with the fruits of righteousness which *are* by Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

(Phil 1:11) Being filled with the fruits of righteousness, which are by Jesus Christ, unto the glory and praise of God.

Paul's message in Philippians is about finding joy in all circumstances. But it doesn't end there. Joy in Jesus produces fruits. The fruit of the Spirit is singular, but this is "fruits of righteousness" (plural)— fruits that result from righteousness (our position in Christ) and fruits that reflect our righteousness (and glorify God).

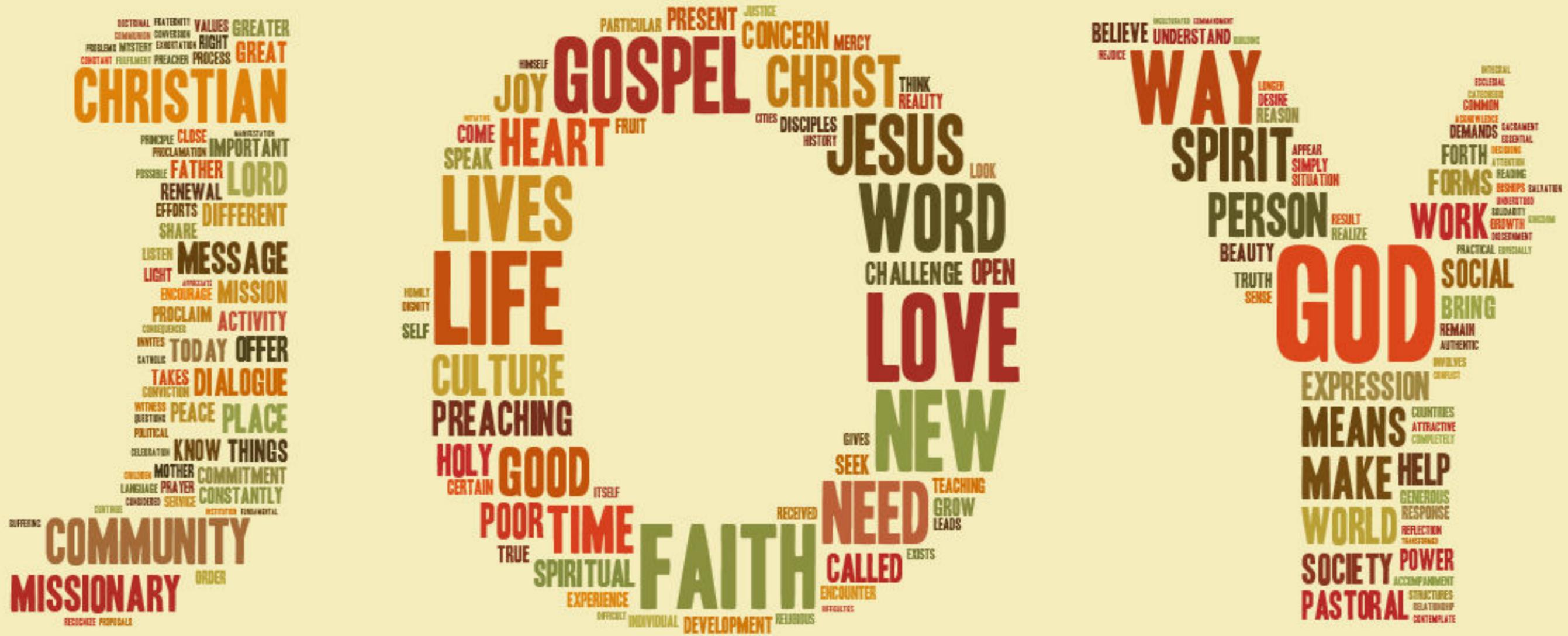
- Our good works come from Jesus Christ. Our fruits are produced by His working in and through us by the power of the Holy Spirit.



UNLESS YOUR RIGHTEOUSNESS SURPASSES
THAT OF THE SCRIBES AND PHARISEES
**YOU WILL
NOT ENTER
THE KINGDOM
OF HEAVEN**
Matthew 5:20

- Paul loved the saints in Philippi. Only in this book do we hear such affirmation and affection.
- Paul wrote of his great love for these people and the joy set before them.
- Their righteous came from God, so whatever their circumstance they could be joyous and glorify God.

Philippians 1:12-30



IN ALL THINGS

1:12-30 Paul's Imprisonment in Rome

- Paul knew he was facing a great ordeal, but he took great pains not to alarm his friends.
- His all-consuming concern was for the advancement of the gospel.

(Phil 1:12) But I would ye should understand, brethren, that the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel;

- Paul was chained to guards.
- Paul didn't mourn the loss of his freedom.
- Paul said his imprisonment was to further the spread of the gospel.

*(Phil 1:13) So that my bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace,
and in all other places;*

- Paul was chained to the praetorian guard, the palace guards.
- They were highly-trained, elite guards and numbered around 9,000.
- For the time that Paul was under house arrest in Rome, different soldiers took turns guarding him.
- The guard was chained to Paul and had no choice but to listen to him proclaim the gospel since they could not beat him into silence because he was a Roman citizen (see Acts 16:37, 38)
- Although Paul was held captive by Rome, these guards were held captive by Paul and Paul made sure they heard the gospel.

(Phil 1:14) And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

Paul's example of steadfastness and witness under adverse circumstances made others bold to witness, though not always from right motives.

(Phil 1::15) Some indeed preach Christ even of envy and strife; and some also of good will:

- Some preached the gospel with wrong motives. God will judge wrong motives.
- But God will use all things according to His will and for His good purposes. (He used a donkey.)
- Even false converts, apostate churches, secular environments, etc. are used by God.

(Phil 1:16) The one preach Christ of contention, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my bonds:

(Phil 1:17) But the other of love, knowing that I am set for the defense of the gospel.

(Phil 1:18) What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretense, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

- “Pretense” (false motives) - there were some preaching the gospel as a way to get Paul into more trouble (vs 16)
- Others from love of Christ.
- “Therein” [the fact that Jesus is being preached] “I do rejoice” In spite of false teachers, Paul rejoiced when Jesus was proclaimed.

Regardless of the motive (cf. v. 15-17), or the circumstances (prison or free), if Christ was preached, Paul rejoiced.

(Phil 1:19) For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

- We think of salvation as meaning forgiveness of sins and regeneration of the soul, but sometimes it means deliverance. That's how Paul is using the word here. Paul is speaking of his deliverance from imprisonment.
- Paul's trial had probably begun when he wrote this letter. He was confident that either his release from prison or his death if he were to be executed would advance the cause of Christ.
- "The Spirit of Jesus Christ" — Paul exalts Jesus by calling the "supply of the Spirit" as being "of Jesus Christ."
- By saying his deliverance would come through the Church at Philippi's prayers, Paul links their intercessory prayers to the supply of the Spirit. This reminds us that God desires us to participate in His works.

(Phil 1:20) According to my earnest expectation and my hope, that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether it be by life, or by death.

(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

- Paul's life found all its meaning in Jesus, but death would be gain because he would enter into the presence of Jesus, without the limitations of this life.
- Jesus is our reason for living and no one can take Him from us.

Gal 2:20 I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ lives in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

“To live is Christ”-To know, to love, to follow Christ, is my life, my glory, my joy.

- “to live” - Phil 2:21; 1 Cor 1:30; Gal 6:14; Col 3:4

Phil 2:21 For all seek their own, not the things which are Jesus Christ's.

1 Cor 1:30 But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

Gal 6:14 But God forbid that I should glory, save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world.

Col 3:4 When Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.

(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

“To live is Christ”-To know, to love, to follow Christ, is my life, my glory, my joy.

- “to die” - Isa 57:1-2; Rom 8:35-39

Isa 57:1-2 The righteous perisheth, and no man layeth it to heart: and merciful men are taken away, none considering that the righteous is taken away from the evil to come. He shall enter into peace: they shall rest in their beds, each one walking in his uprightness.

Rom 8:35-39 Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? *shall* tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, For thy sake we are killed all the day long; we are accounted as sheep for the slaughter. Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us. For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, Nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.

(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

“To live is Christ”-To know, to love, to follow Christ, is my life, my glory, my joy.

- “to die” - 2 Cor 5:1, 6, 8; 1 Thess 4:13-15

2 Cor 5:1, 8 For we know that if our earthly house of *this* tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. {6} Therefore *we are* always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: {8} We are confident, *I say*, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.

1 Th 4:13 But I would not have you to be ignorant, brethren, concerning them which are asleep, that ye sorrow not, even as others which have no hope. {14} For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so them also which sleep in Jesus will God bring with him. {15} For this we say unto you by the word of the Lord, that we which are *alive and* remain unto the coming of the Lord shall not prevent them which are asleep.

(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

“To live is Christ”-To know, to love, to follow Christ, is my life, my glory, my joy.

- “to die” - Rev 14:13

Rev 14:13 And I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write, Blessed *are* the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labours; and their works do follow them.

(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Soul Sleep

- This is a heretical teaching that is adhered to by Seventh Day Adventists. Soul sleep is the doctrine that the soul resides in the memory of God until its awakening. This is a completely false teaching with absolutely no biblical support. And, there is a great deal of biblical information to prove it false.
- Jehovah's Witnesses teach a variation of this doctrine called annihilation, which claims the body and soul cease to exist at death. This teaching is similar to the Seventh Day Adventists teaching of soul sleep, but different in that the soul lies in a state of death (not unconscious sleep) until it is made alive in the bodily resurrection (not awakened, as in soul sleep).
- Both Seventh Day Adventists and Jehovah's Witnesses use a verse from Ecclesiastes as the foundation for their doctrines. They take this verse out of context to support what they believe:

Ecclesiastes 9:5 For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.

(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Soul Sleep

Ecclesiastes 9:5 For the living know that they shall die: but the dead know not any thing, neither have they any more a reward; for the memory of them is forgotten.

This verse needs to be understood in the full context. These are "The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem." (Ecclesiastes 1:1) and he is speaking from a human, or earthly, perspective about physical death. He is not making doctrinal statements about the condition of the soul after death. The soul is not physical, it is spiritual. The Preacher is not saying that the soul dies, nor is he saying that it enters into an unconscious state at death. He is speaking of a person's earthly existence ceasing, the futility of earthly gain and the fleeting influence of the departed.

(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

What the Bible does teach about death:

- Paul, with full knowledge and understanding of redemption of sin by Christ's death on the cross and eternal life made possible by His resurrection, speaks of our physical death and the resurrection of the soul:

*2 Corinthians 5:8 We are confident, I say, and willing rather **to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.***

- Paul is certain that, when he dies, he will go and be with the Lord. He does not say that to be absent from the body, is to **someday** be present with the Lord. He proclaims these two events to be at the same time. When the soul leaves the body, it enters immediately into the presence of the Lord. Paul also says,

*Philippians 1:23 For I am hard pressed between the two, having **a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.***

Paul's Desire

- If Paul had thought his soul would be sleeping from the time of death to bodily resurrection, he would not have desired to die. His desire to die was based on a desire to go and be with Jesus. Based on his commitment to preaching the gospel, and his desire to have people come to Jesus, Paul would have preferred to live and serve Christ than to have slept in the grave until Jesus' return.
- After Paul said, *For to me to live is Christ, and **to die is** gain*, he said he knew that at death he would go *to be with Christ* in Heaven (verse 23).

Phil 1:23 For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

- There's another precious teaching in this verse that cannot be passed by. Although it is not relative to our discussion of soul sleep, we must pause and make note of it. Paul knew that while he remained here on earth, Christ was here with him. He said, *to live is Christ*. Christ is here on earth with every believer, through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.



(Phil 1:21) For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

*Tell me not, in mournful numbers
Life is but an empty dream!
Dust thou art, to dust returnest,
Was not spoken of the soul
— Henry Wadsworth Longfellow*

(Phil 1:22) But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I understand not.

It's all in God's hands.

(Phil 1:23) For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:

“to depart” means “to loose from all the confinements, pain, and limitations of this life” (same word used in 2 Tim. 4:6).

“to be with Christ” — Death brings us immediately into the presence of Christ--no soul sleep or no purgatory in between.

Notice: Paul did not say, “I have a desire to depart, and to be in Heaven.” Nor did he say, “I have a desire to depart and to be free of troubles.” Paul said, “My desire is to depart and to be with Christ!”

(Phil 1:24) Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.

Paul has everything he needs in Christ, so he is able to give everything he has for others.

(Phil 1:25) And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith;

Here Paul seems certain that he will be acquitted, but the only reason one can see for his momentary confidence is that he believed he was still needed on earth in the Lord's service.

(Phil 1:26) That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.

Rom 12:12 Rejoicing in hope; patient in tribulation; continuing instant in prayer

(Phil 1:27) Only let your conversation be as it becomes the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

“conversation” = citizenship and conduct. It’s a political term meaning “live as citizens.” Paul wants the Philippians to understand that they have a citizenship, not of this earth.

*Phil 3:20 For our **conversation** is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ:*

“*To live as it becomes the gospel*” or **conduct yourself in a manner** worthy of the gospel. How?

- 1) Stand Fast
- 2) Strive Together
- 3) Suffer for Jesus



1) Stand Fast 2) Strive Together 3) Suffer for Jesus
(Phil 1:27) ... that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

1) Stand Fast in One Spirit

To stand fast describes someone who will not give up, give in, or get out the context of trials, temptations, sorrows, or any circumstances that might create fear, panic, anxiety, etc.

“in one Spirit” — this is the spirit of unity among Christians. It happens because the Holy Spirit unites us and when we are Christ-focused. We are to live in unity as the Body of Christ (that doesn’t mean uniformity).

*1 Cor 12:13 For by **one Spirit** are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into **one Spirit**.*

*Eph 4:4 There is one body, and **one Spirit**, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling;*

1) Stand Fast 2) Strive Together 3) Suffer for Jesus
*(Phil 1:27) ... that ye stand fast in one spirit, **with one mind**
striving together for the faith of the gospel;*

2) Striving Together with One Mind

“with one mind” — Paul stresses the necessity of unity is based on true belief -- If we cannot agree in what we believe; we cannot be strong. We are to have the mind of Christ; we are to agree and be of one mind with God.

*(1 Pet 3:8) Finally, be ye all of **one mind**, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous:*

*(Rom 15:6) That ye may with **one mind** and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

*(2 Cor 13:11) Finally, brethren, farewell. Be perfect, be of good comfort, be of **one mind**, live in peace; and the God of love and peace shall be with you.*



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1) Stand Fast 2) Strive Together 3) Suffer for Jesus

(Phil 1:28) And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

(Phil 1:29) For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

“in nothing terrified by your adversaries”

Paul is telling the Philippians are not to be terror-stricken in the face of their enemies. He just wrote, in verse 27, that they were to stand fast in one spirit, with one mind — that’s how they would not be terrified.

John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

1) Stand Fast 2) Strive Together 3) Suffer for Jesus

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(Phil 1:29) For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

“an evident token of perdition”

By striving together in love and confidence, the Philippians would be living proof to their adversaries that the message of Jesus Christ is true and that they are lost without Him. Because Paul contrasted salvation to perdition, his focus here undoubtedly was on eternal matters.

“to you of salvation”

The courage of the saints at Philippi would be proof of their salvation and of the ultimate failure of their foes. proof of perdition:

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*(Phil 1:29) For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to **suffer for his sake**;*

*For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ...to **suffer for his sake**;*

Those who have faith in Christ will suffer.

2 Tim 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

2 Tim 2:12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with him....

Phil 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

1) Stand Fast 2) Strive Together 3) Suffer for Jesus

(Phil 1:28) And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

*(Phil 1:29) For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to **suffer for his sake**;*

*For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ...to **suffer for his sake**;*

Suffering should not be considered accidental or without purpose.

1 Pet 4:12 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you:

1 Pet 4:13 But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

1) Stand Fast 2) Strive Together 3) Suffer for Jesus

(Phil 1:28) And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

*(Phil 1:29) For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to **suffer for his sake**;*

*For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ...to **suffer for his sake**;*

Suffering is actually a gift from God, for in the midst of suffering He comforts us *and enables us to rejoice.*

2 Cor 1:5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also aboundeth by Christ.

1 Pet 4:12-13 Beloved, think it not strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened unto you: But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that, when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy.

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*For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ...to **suffer for his sake**;*

Suffering is a blessing because it brings eternal reward.

Matt. 5:1–12 The Beatitudes — vs 10 Blessed *are* they which are persecuted for righteousness' sake: for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

2 Cor 4:17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

2 Tim 2:12 If we suffer, we shall also reign with *him*: if we deny *him*, he also will deny us [or reign with Him, but not our salvation — see vs 13]

1) Stand Fast 2) Strive Together 3) Suffer for Jesus

(Phil 1:28) And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

*(Phil 1:29) For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to **suffer for his sake**;*

*For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ...to **suffer for his sake**;*

Suffering is a tool God uses to accomplish His purposes both in His Son and in His children.

Heb 2:10 For it became Him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.

1 Pet 1:7 That the trial of your faith, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be tried with fire, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

1) Stand Fast 2) Strive Together 3) Suffer for Jesus

(Phil 1:28) And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

*(Phil 1:29) For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to **suffer for his sake**;*

*For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ...to **suffer for his sake**;*

Suffering, moreover, matures us as Christians in the present and enables us to be glorified with Christ in the future (see Rom. 8:17).

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

Rom 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

(Phil 1:30) Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear to be in me.

The Philippians were in the same basic conflict as was Paul, from those who opposed the gospel.

2 Tim 3:12 Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

Thoughts for the week:



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1. Paul was in prison, yet joyful. Which option (life or death) did Paul desire and what did he believe was necessary? (vs 22-25)
2. What difference has faith in Jesus made in your feelings about death and dying?
3. How do you fulfill Paul's directive to "let your conversation (conduct) be as it becomes the gospel of Christ (vs 27)?"
4. List the ten things that Paul prayed for the Philippians. (Phil 1:9-14)

Philippians 1:12-30 — Precious Verses

Philippians 1:14 And many of the brethren in the Lord, waxing confident by my bonds, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

Philippians 1:18 What then? notwithstanding, every way, whether in pretence, or in truth, Christ is preached; and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice.

Philippians 1:21 For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.

Philippians 1:26 That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.

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