

Recap

- Philippians – written by Paul while he was under house arrest in Rome to the church he planted in Philippi
- Written to
 - Thank them for their ongoing financial support
 - Encourage them in face of external opposition
 - Warn/call out internal grumblings

Two ongoing questions for us from the introduction

- How are we participating in the Gospel?
- Is our love for others abounding more and more in knowledge and depth of insight?

PHILIPPIANS RECAP

What has happened to me has actually served to advance the Gospel

- For Paul personally –
 - Apostle to Gentiles, but can't 'apostle' in traditional sense
 - imprisonment has given him access to people he wouldn't otherwise encounter
- For Roman Church in general – Paul's chains are giving others confidence (persuading/convincing) them to dare (to show boldness/resoluteness in face of danger or opposition) share the Gospel
 - Some share out of love/goodwill are 'picking up the slack'
 - Others out of envy, rivalry, and selfish ambition are preaching in order to make trouble for Paul
 - Either way Gospel is advancing

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

- Acquittal/release – to live is Christ; Paul will continue living his life dedicated to Jesus and doing the ministry God has given to him (fruitful labor); best outcome for the Philippians
- Conviction/execution – to die is gain (literally profit); death will result in obtaining more intimate relationship with Jesus which is goal of Christian life and Paul's highest desire
- Confident of his deliverance (salvation) in either scenario – envisioning himself standing before the emperor
 - Not be ashamed – not be disgraced due to a lack of trust in God
 - Sufficient courage – speaks to boldness of speech, openness in public

PHILIPPIANS

1:12-30

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the Gospel of Christ.

- Conduct yourself - lit. live as citizens
- Worthy – appropriate
- What does that look like?
 - Stand firm in one Spirit – be firmly committed in conviction or belief
 - Striving together as one for the faith of the Gospel – engaging side by side/helping one another
 - Not being frightened – not letting yourself be intimidated

PHILIPPIANS 1:12-30

- Perspective - eternal/Kingdom outlook on:
 - Current situation – rejoices because Gospel is advancing even though he is imprisoned and brothers are preaching in order to cause him trouble
 - Future situation – rejoices because he will be delivered whether he is acquitted or convicted
 - Views suffering through lens of grace – ‘it has been granted’
- Prayer -
 - Instrumentality of prayer – it is *through* your prayers and the supply of the Holy Spirit that what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance
 - Call to intercession – are you praying about what you are talking about?
- Live appropriately
 - For us – don’t worry about your life

PHILIPPIANS

1:12–30