

05 Philippians 1:12-18

The Furtherance of the Gospel

1. Phil 1:12

- a. *"things which happened"* – prison, arrest, accused, threatened, blind – 2Co 11:23-30
 - i. The Philippians were concerned for Paul and a little distressed.
- b. *"furtherance of the gospel"* – The first lesson Paul teaches is Phil 1:21, Gal 2:20
 - i. Paul is in bad circumstances, but life is good because the truth advances
 - ii. The evil in this world, cannot prevent the good -Ge 50:20, Ro 8:28, 2Pe 3:15
 - iii. Life in Christ: seeing past your suffering to the benefit of the truth in others
 - iv. Do you have the thought to suffer for anyone else to their benefit? -Rom 9:3

2. Phil 1:13-14

- a. *"bonds in Christ"* – Paul is suffering for (and with) Christ, but not for sins – Col 4:3
 - i. Paul had a clear conscience in his behavior - Acts 23:1, 25:8, 25:10, 2 Tim 2:9
- b. *"manifest in all the palace"* – Paul gets an audience by his trial - Col 4:22, Acts 26:29
- c. *"many of the brethren in the Lord"* – He is talking here about saints... remember
- d. *"waxing confident by my bonds"* – This is a battle between Jew and Christ w/Paul
 - i. The consequences of your convictions can produce confidence in others
- e. *"bold to speak... without fear"* – We need unashamed workmen – Rom 1:16, 2Ti 1:7-8
 - i. Do not underestimate sincere bold integrity to affect others – Eph 6:19-20
 - ii. The Thessalonians were a result of Paul in prison, also – 1Th 1:6, 2:2, 14
 - iii. Why were they afraid? B/c there was opposition, violence, disagreement

3. Phil 1:15-17

- a. Remember, who is he talking about? Brethren in the Lord.
- b. Some preach of envy and strife, not sincerely, against Paul (but not against Christ)
- c. There was strife between Paul and Barnabas – Acts 15:39
- d. There are those who strive with people, thinking this is Pauline – 2 Tim 2:24-25
- e. There was strife among the brethren in Corinth – 1 Cor 1:11,12; 3:3
 - i. Notice, also the insincerity of the Corinthians – 1 Cor 5:8, 1 Cor 4:3-4, 9:3
 - ii. Paul explained to the Corinthians what afflictions meant – 2 Cor 1:6
- f. Others preach of good will and love, knowing that Paul did right.
 - i. Think of Onesiphorus – 2 Tim 1:15-18, 2 Tim 4:16-17

4. Phil 1:18

- a. *"every way"* – Not with wrong doctrine, but with any motive/intent toward Paul
- b. The common denominator is not the motive, but the message
- c. What is that thing Paul is looking for? ... **"Christ is preached."**
- d. If the message changes Paul will not rejoice – 1 Cor 13:6
- e. Paul does not compromise the message here – Gal 1:8-9, Ro 16:17, 2 Ti 2:16
- f. His rejoicing is in the advancement of Christ, not the advancement of Paul
- g. It's always about commending the doctrine, and not commending the people.