

06 Philippians 1:19-26

To Live is Christ

1. Phil 1:18-19 – Paul’s salvation

- a. Paul does not rejoice in preaching Christ wrongly – 2 Cor 11:4, Gal 1:8-9
- b. Paul rejoices in the message, not the men or their motives.
- c. Salvation here is not of his soul, or from sins, but deliverance from his condition
- d. *“this shall turn”* – The bold preaching of Christ, the furtherance of the gospel
- e. *“through your prayer”* – We are not saved by saying prayers, but prayer shows concern, and their concern would be for Paul and his message
- f. *“supply of the Spirit”* – The Spirit is not supplied in a measuring cup – John 3:34
 - i. We’re sealed with the Spirit - Eph 1:13, 4:30; 1Co 2:12, 3:16, 6:19; 2Co 1:22, 5:5
 - ii. You are not Christ’s if you do not have the Spirit - Rom 8:9, 8:14
 - iii. The supply/fruit of the Spirit can help Paul in his situation – Gal 5:16-25

2. Phil 1:20 – Not ashamed

- a. Paul’s expectation and hope is in Christ – Col 2:2, 2 Tim 1:12
- b. His expectation and hope is not physical deliverance, but Christ magnified
- c. Paul will be saved from Rom 7:24 whether he is released or sentenced to death
- d. Paul is not ashamed of the gospel, his hope, his life – Rom 1:16, 5:5, 6:21
- e. Paul is not ashamed of Christ, his message, or his chains – 2 Tim 2:10-14, 2:15

3. Phil 1:20-23 – By life or death

- a. *“Christ shall be magnified”* – Paul says his life is about making more of Christ
- b. *“to live is Christ”* - His life is defined by Christ, not by us – Gal 2:20
 - i. Our life is not *for* Christ, but *is* Christ – Col 3:4, 2 Cor 4:10; Rom 8:6, 8:29-39
 - ii. We live lives as if they are ours – 1 Cor 6:19-20, but they are not – Rom 12:2
 - iii. We are heirs of eternal life – Titus 3:7, fight for it – 1 Tim 6:12, 2 Cor 5:4
 - iv. How is your life defined? What makes you alive, where is your glory?
- c. *“to die is gain”* - Christ can only be magnified in death by resurrection – 1 Cor 15:19
 - i. We see the playing out of 1 Cor 15:55-56 in Paul’s thinking
 - ii. The unsaved see death as cashing in all your chips, for us it is a departing
 - iii. This is mental evaluation that prioritizes spiritual things.
- d. *“I wot not”* – a strait is a narrow separation between the two objects/options
 - i. *“fruit of my labour”* – which is a summary of Ecclesiastes
 - ii. For many of us it is not a strait, but a large chasm, a no brainer – for shame
 - iii. *“to depart... far better”* means that it is not the end, and is not soul sleep

4. Phil 1:24-26 – Paul will continue

- a. The mind of Christ realizes that this life is worse than the next – Rom 8:18
- b. ... but Paul stays, not selfishly, but unselfishly,
- c. *“more needful for you”* – we are here to spend our lives for others
- d. *“for the furtherance and joy of faith”* – He abides to further people’s faith in Christ, to make their joy abound in Christ – 2 Cor 1:24