

A New Way of Thinking About Life and Faith

Philippians 1:18b-26



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Today's Passage – Philippians 1:18b-26

1. Paul will continue to rejoice as God's faithfulness perseveres no matter the circumstances.
2. Paul does not know the outcome of his trial, he assumes it will eventually result in his death.

Section 1 – 1:18b-19

- Key to Understanding this Passage: "Deliverance"
- *Soteria* = salvation. "Ultimate rescue from God's judgment on the final day"

LESSON: This " _____ " changes everything - a new way to think about life and death.

Section 2 – 1:20

- "Eager expectation and hope" – an intense expectation of something that is _____ to _____
- Romans 8:19-21
- "Not be at all ashamed" as Paul faithfully and courageously lives out his life in Christ – whether he lives or whether he dies.
- "No one whose hope is in the Lord will ever be put to shame." Psalm 25:3

LESSON: Our victory is not determined by acquittal "at trial" – our victory is because of our _____ and _____ in the Lord – no matter the circumstances.

Section 3 – 1:21-26

- Paul draws contrasts between life and death and the result of each – a dilemma for Paul!
- Life is _____ – Death is _____.
- Life means fruitful _____ – Death means _____ with Christ
- He "chooses" life because of what it means for the Philippians. (Note the lack of selfishness).

Note Bene - This Isn't a "One Time" Ideal!

- Philippians 3:8 - I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.
- Romans 6:4 – We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order, that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.
- Galatians 2:20 – I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.
- Colossians 3:4 – When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

LESSON:

1. Dying means being with _____. Is that my focus when I think about heaven or is my view more self-serving? Is life or death a "dilemma for me?"
2. Do we treat faith as an " _____ " to our lives? Or is it the source, the core, of life's meaning?