



TO LIVE IS CHRIST, TO DIE IS GAIN *Philippians 1:19-26*

January 28, 2024
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Good morning Church! I mentioned that the Book of Philippians centers around the gospel. We have been encouraged to be good partners of the gospel, to pray for each other for the gospel, and to advance the gospel. Today, let's look at Paul's fullest commitment to the gospel. When Jesus says, "No man can follow me unless they deny self and takes up his cross and follow me." The cross demands our life, our ambitions, our desires as God's grace becomes our anthem, our allegiance.

This passage helps me consider two things:

- If everything else in my life faded, CHRIST REMAINS.
- The purpose of my life is because of CHRIST.

Philippians 1:19-26

*"for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, **20** as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. **21** For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. **22** If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. **23** I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. **24** But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. **25** Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, **26** so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again."*

1. Christ Brings Us DELIVERANCE. (v 19)

2. Christ Is MAGNIFIED Whatever Happens. (v 20-21)

"Our citizenship is in heaven, and we eagerly wait for a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ." **Philippians 3:20**

*"But let me reveal to you a wonderful secret. We will not all die, but we will all be transformed! **52** It will happen in a moment, in the blink of an eye, when the last trumpet is blown. For when the trumpet sounds, those who have died will be raised to live forever. And we who are living will also be transformed. **53** For our dying bodies must be transformed into bodies that will never die; our mortal bodies must be transformed into immortal bodies."* **1 Corinthians 15:51-53**

"But we are looking forward to the new heavens and new earth he has promised, a world filled with God's righteousness."
2 Peter 3:13

3. Christ Is Our PRIORITY on Earth and In Heaven (v 23-26)

Salvation through Jesus Christ

*The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. **The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness.** Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.*