

Two World's -- Two Passions

Philippians 1:12-30

- a. For their _____ in the faith - Col 1:28-29; 1 Tim 4:15
- b. For their joy in the faith - 1 Thess 3:2-3
- c. For their overflowing ___ in Christ Jesus - Jn 16:22

Introduction

I Paul's Visionary Outlook

- A. His chains served to _____ the gospel - Rom 8:28
 1. It was clear that he was in chains for Christ - Phil 4:22
- B. His chains _____ the brothers:
 1. To speak God's Word more _____ - Acts 28:30-31
 2. To speak God's Word more _____ - Lk 12:4-5

II Paul's Earthly Challenges

- A. He acknowledged the _____ in ministry
 1. Some were preaching out of _____ and rivalry - 1 Cor 3:3
 - a. Being motivated by self ambition - Phil 2:3; Jam 3:16
 - b. Hoping to stir up _____ for Paul - 2 Thess 1:6-7
 2. Others were preaching out of good will
 - a. Being motivated by _____ - 2 Tim 1:11
 - b. Knowing Paul was called to defend the gospel
- B. He _____ that the gospel was being preached:
 1. Whether from _____ motives - Matt 23:13
 2. Whether from _____ motives

III Paul's Eternal Perspective

- A. He was convinced that he would be _____: - Job 13:16
 1. Through the Philippians' prayers - 2 Cor 1:8-11
 2. Through the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ - Zech 4:6
- B. He was full of expectation and hope:
 1. That he would not be _____ - Isa 50:7; Ps 34:5
 2. That he would have sufficient _____, so that:
 - a. Christ would be exalted in his body by ___ - Rom 12:1
 - b. Christ would be exalted in his body by _____ Ac 20:24
 3. That he was in a win/win situation
 - a. To live is _____ → Fruitful labor - Gal 2:20
 - b. To die is _____ → Union with Christ - 2 Cor 5:1-4
- C. He was torn between two passions: - 2 Cor 5:6-9
 1. He preferred to _____ and be with Christ - Ps 73:24-26
 2. He was convinced he would _____ in the body:

IV Paul's Earnest Exhortation

- A. He exhorted them regardless of what the future held:
 1. To conduct themselves in a _____ manner - Col 1:10
 2. To stand _____ in one spirit - 1 Cor 15:58
 3. To contend as one man in the faith of the gospel - Jude 3
 4. To not be _____ by those who opposed - Prov 29:25
- B. He reminded them of their calling:
 1. They had been granted on behalf of Christ:
 - a. To _____ on Christ - Jn 1:12
 - b. To _____ for Christ - Matt 5:10-12
 2. They were going through the same struggle:
 - a. They _____ Paul suffered - 1 Thess 2:2
 - b. They _____ Paul still suffered - 1 Pt 4:12-16

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. Share a time when God turned what a "trial" into a fruitful, divine opportunity for the gospel. What happened?
2. Paul had a visionary, upbeat, joyful outlook on life that was focused on advancing the gospel. Is this the mark of your life?
3. What are the "chains" in your life that you might be tempted to blame for not serving the Lord wholeheartedly. How might they actually serve to increase the fruitfulness of your witness?
4. Personalize Paul's message for a moment: "For me, to live is _____, and to die is _____." Are you satisfied with your answer? Why or why not?
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to enable you to live a life that is truly worthy of the gospel. Assess/review your life for any changes that you know God would like you to make this week.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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