



# The HIDDEN PURPOSES of God

Philippians 1:23-26

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 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets. Pastor Joe's email is Joe@SouthReno.com.

## Review Section

- God's purposes are often accomplished through our problems.
- The sharing of the gospel should always be our goal.
- Take courage from the examples of other Christians.
- The message of Christ is all that matters
- Don't be surprised by those who oppose the Gospel.

OUR GOAL SHOULD BE: **"For me, to live—Christ; to die—gain."**

- **If so, you can transcend PAST circumstances.**
- **If so, you can transform PRESENT relationships.**
- **If so, you can tackle FUTURE uncertainties.**

### How Death Can Become 'Gain'?

- We lose everything we don't need. (World, flesh, evil, doubt, trials)
- We keep everything that matters. (Soul, faith, saved loved-ones)
- We gain what we never had. (Heaven, new bodies, God, Jesus, HS)

- Alexander Maclaren

## Message Section

# "Ready for Heaven, but needed on Earth!"

Dr. Alan Carr

### 1. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_.

Philippians 1:23, NLT -<sup>23</sup> I'm torn between two desires:

Philippians 1:23, KJV 1900 -<sup>23</sup> For I am in a strait betwixt two:

### 2. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_.

Philippians 1:23–25, NLT -<sup>23</sup> I'm torn between two desires: I long to go and be with Christ, which would be far better for me. <sup>24</sup> But for your sakes, it is better that I continue to live. <sup>25</sup> Knowing this, I am convinced that I will remain alive so I can continue to help all of you grow and experience the joy of your faith.

### 3. Paul's \_\_\_\_\_.

Philippians 1:26, MSG -<sup>26</sup> You can start looking forward to a great reunion when I come visit you again. We'll be praising Christ, enjoying each other.

## Life Application Section

# A Word about The HIDDEN PURPOSES of God

- Life is hard right now.** (Josh. 1:9; Deut. 31:6, 8; 2 Cor. 4:16-18)  
Washington, DC • New Administration • Pandemic • COVID-19 Restrictions • "The End is Near"
- God is at work—right now—in our world and in ALL our individual lives.**  
(John 13:7; Phil. 2:13; Hab. 2:3)
- God saved us to work.** (Eph. 2:10; James 2:17-18; Gal. 6:9)
- Every saint of God has a job.** (1 Cor. 12:7, 11)
- Every saint of God has a debt.** (2 Cor. 5:14; 1 John 4:19)
- Every saint of God will be rewarded in proportion to his/her Labors.** (2 Cor. 5:10)
- Our work has never been more important.** (Psa. 9:17; Mark 16:15; Matt. 9:37-38)

Answers: 1. Dilemma, 2. Desire, 3. Debt.