

# Unlocking the Good Life

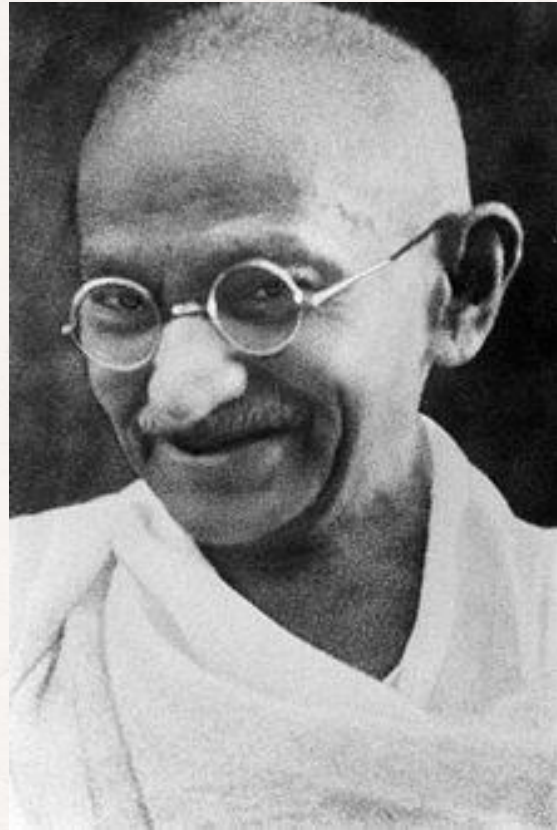
A series in Philippians

**To live is Christ  
Philippians 1:12-26**





[sahistory.org.za](http://sahistory.org.za)



[en.wikipedia.org](http://en.wikipedia.org)



[plough.com](http://plough.com)



New Foreword by ERIC METAXAS

# DIETRICH BONHOEFFER

## ✠ THE COST OF ✠ DISCIPLESHIP

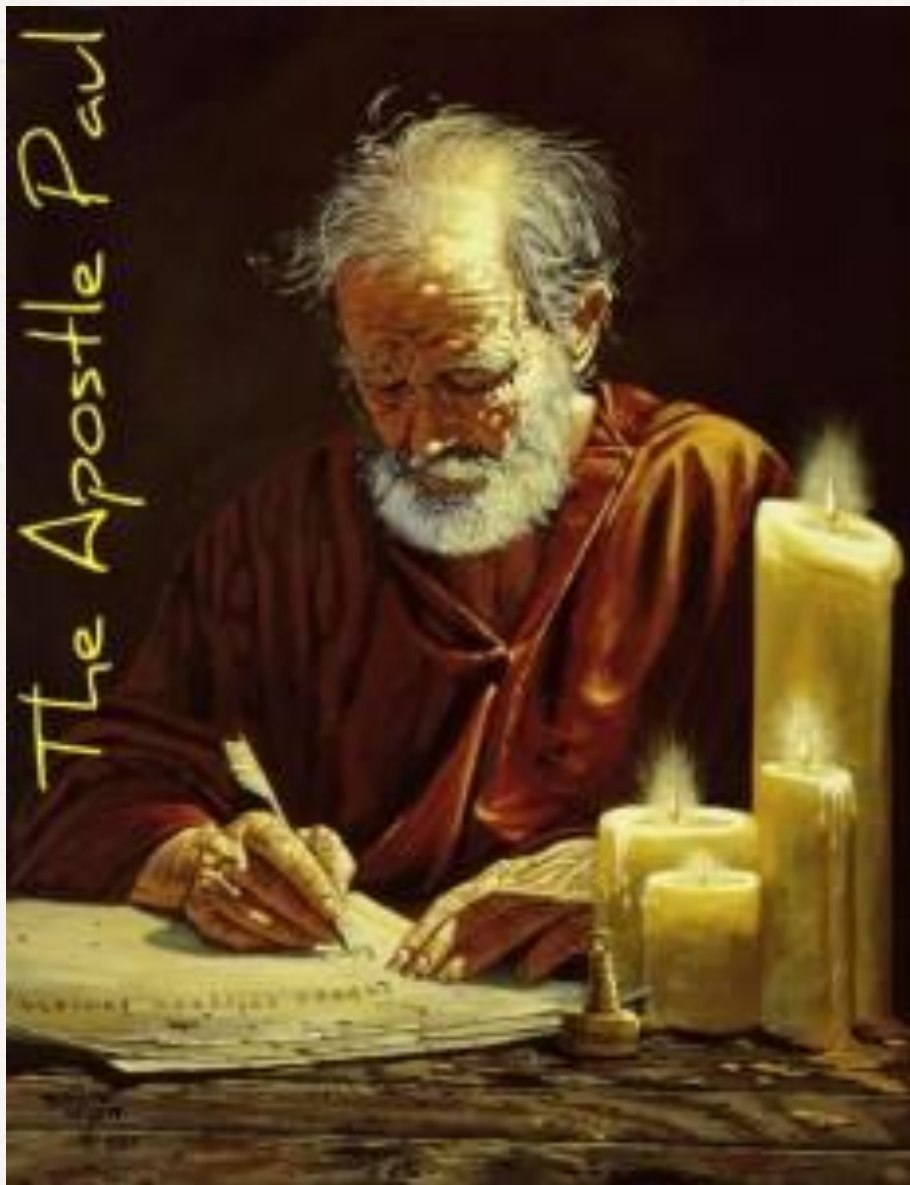


[amazon.ca](https://www.amazon.ca)

Salvation is free,  
but discipleship will cost you your life

~ Bonhoeffer



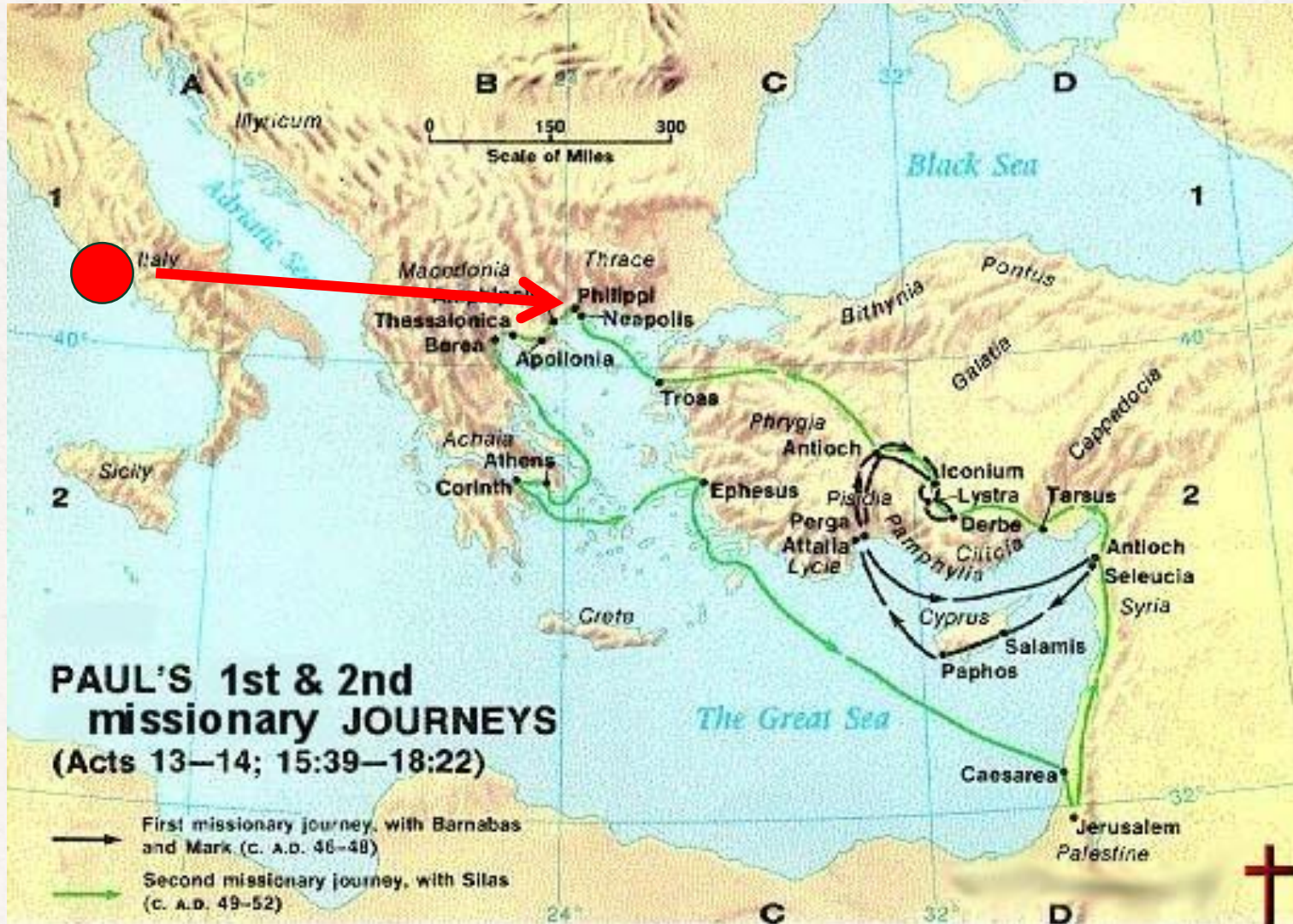


The Apostle Paul

patheos.com



# Letter to the Philippians



**NIV Philippians 1:6**

...he who began a good work in you  
will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus.

**NIV Philippians 1:9-11**

And this is my prayer:

that your love may abound more and more  
in knowledge and depth of insight,  
so that you may be able to discern what is best  
and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ,

filled with the fruit of righteousness  
that comes through Jesus Christ--to the glory and praise of God.



# Paul's Circumstances

## **Philippians 1:12-14**

Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel.

As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.

Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly.



# What is the Gospel?

Euangelion → great news that delights  
→ the great news of Jesus

“The good news that through Christ the **power** of God’s kingdom has **entered history** to **renew** the whole world.

When we **believe and rely** on Jesus’s work and record (rather than ours) for our **relationship** to God, that kingdom power comes **upon us** and begins to **work through us**”.

*~Tim Keller*





# For the Cause of the Gospel

1. The Praetorian guard and everyone else has heard



steamcommunity.com



# For the Cause of the Gospel

1. The Praetorian guard and everyone else has heard
2. The believers found new courage to spread the gospel
3. Competition among those spreading the gospel

So how am I to respond?

I've decided that I really don't care about their motives, whether mixed, bad, or indifferent.

Every time one of them opens his mouth, Christ is proclaimed, so I just cheer them on!

*The Message*



# For the Cause of the Gospel

1. The Praetorian guard and everyone else has heard
2. The believers found new courage to spread the gospel
3. Competition among those spreading the gospel
4. Christ is proclaimed
5. Christ is exalted

<sup>NET</sup> **Philippians 1:20**

My confident hope is that I will in no way be ashamed but that with complete boldness, even now as always, Christ will be exalted in my body, whether I live or die.



# Paul's View on Life and Death

<sup>NIV</sup> **Philippians 1:21**

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

<sup>NLT</sup> **Philippians 1:21**

For to me, living means living for Christ, and dying is even better.

<sup>MSG</sup> **Philippians 1:21**

Life versus even more life! I can't lose.



# Paul's View on Life and Death

## <sup>NIV</sup> **Philippians 1:21**

For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

## <sup>MSG</sup> **Philippians 1:21**

As long as I'm alive in this body, there is good work for me to do.

If I had to choose right now, I hardly know which I'd choose.

Hard choice!

The desire to break camp here and be with Christ is powerful.

Some days I can think of nothing better. But most days, because of what you are going through, I am sure that it's better for me to stick it out here.

So I plan to be around awhile, companion to you as your growth and joy in this life of trusting God continues.



# Now What?

1. Live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.
2. Stand firm in unity – striving together for the gospel
3. No fear of opposition
4. In all circumstances – even suffering

