

Series: That We May Know Him

Text: Philippians 1:18b-30

Main Idea: To live is Christ, to die is gain.

Title/Hook: Death is...

Date: 9/24/23

Purpose: To exhort Christians to live fearlessly and faithfully for Christ with lives worthy of the gospel, not fearing death but even seeing it as a gain, because they know their salvation in Christ is sure, and is specifically assured in suffering

FCF/COR: The fear of death is a reality for human beings, everyone is trying to delay death and prolong youth and life.

Christ Trajectory: To depart (from life) is to be with Christ because He made away for us to have eternal life. (John 3, 11, 1 Cor. 15)

Apologetic: Is there anything that can take the pain, sting, sorrow, and fear of death away? What would you pay for it?

Call to Worship: Philippians 1:2-6

Benediction: Philippians 1:9-11

Structure: Deductive

Main Idea:

Subject (What is the passage about?): What is Paul's desire for himself and command for the Christians in Philippi?

Complement (What does the passage say about the subject?): To honor Christ and live worthy of the gospel in life or death, without fear, because salvation in Christ is sure.

Exegetical Main Idea: Paul's desire for himself and command for the Christians in Philippi is to honor Christ and live worthy of the gospel in life or death, without fear, because salvation in Christ is sure.

Theological Main Idea: Because the gospel is true and salvation in Christ is sure, Christians are to live worthy of Christ, without fear, in life or death.

Homiletical Main Idea: To live is Christ, to die is gain.

Outline:

Phil. 1:21 – “to live is Christ, and to die is gain”

How? How can he say this? How is losing life actually gaining something better? It’s because of the One he is going to mention 6 times in these 13 verses. Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ changes everything about life and death.

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1. Paul’s life is about honoring Christ and serving others (vv. 18b-21a, 22, 24-26)

2 Corinthians 5:14-15 - ¹⁴For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; ¹⁵and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

Philippians 2:17 - ¹⁷Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.

Mark 10:43-45- But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. ⁴⁵For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

1. Paul’s life is about honoring Christ and serving others (vv. 18b-21a, 22, 24-26)

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2. Paul’s death doesn’t scare him because it will lead to being with Christ (21b, 23)

Hebrews 2:14-15 - ¹⁴Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through

death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, ¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

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3. Paul's command is to live fearlessly for Christ, knowing suffering brings assurance (vv. 27-30)

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