

Greater is He Part 2

Philippians 1:19 NIV

19 For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Paul the Apostle is writing to the Church in Philippi a letter to encourage them in their faith. He is in prison for preaching the Gospel and hears the good news that because of this some are emboldened to preach while others are preaching the Gospel out of envy and strife to cause Paul more trouble.

Paul chooses to look at the bright side of things. He has faith and says;

***12** But I want you to know, brethren, that the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel,*

The Apostle goes on to say;

***18** What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.*

19 For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Paul's faith is Strong in the Lord...

Even in the midst of difficult circumstances...

Have you ever known someone who somehow has the ability to stay full of faith in difficult times?

Or who has the ability to keep going when others might have given up? Like Paul they seem to have this supernatural supply of encouragement...

- The truth is; Paul was not exempt from feeling the discomforts of prison like anyone else...
- Or the discouragement that could have been depressing at times...
- Paul was just as human as anyone else...
- The difference for Paul lies right here in his words...

Vs. 19

For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

Paul is in Prison:

How many people, in our world today, are in some kind of prison

A prison of fear...

A prison of doubt...

A prison of hopelessness...

A prison of bad news...

A prison of _____

Paul is in his own prison yet there is something in him that causes him to say “For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance”

1. Through your Prayer

- Paul understands the power of prayer
- That prayer moves things...
- That prayer opens doors...
- That prayer invites God into the situation...
- Prayer cuts a path in the spiritual that later manifests in the natural...

Because of the prayers of other brothers and sisters Paul is not overwhelmed by his circumstances...

Paul may be behind bars on the outside but he is free on the inside...

You know what's so awesome about church?

- Church reminds you, your not the only one...

- You're not the only one in the world that's going through what you're going through...
- You're not the only one in the world that's concerned about what you're concerned about...
- You're not the only one in the world that's struggling with what you're struggling with...

It's called **Spiritual Community**

Galatians 6:2 KJV

Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfil the law of Christ.

1 Peter 5:9 NIV

9 Resist him (*the devil*), standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

There are other believers that are probably going through the same things you are and maybe even more so...

The same thoughts, concerns and challenges but now you have someone who will pray with you and encourage you even as you encourage them.

Think about this... Paul is writing a letter from a prison cell to encourage believers; and he is encouraged because of them...

The Church really is this amazing - faith building, life giving, prayer offering, encouragement factory.... I'm so thankful for the Church...

There is one more thing:

Vs. 19

For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ,

2. The Supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ

The one thing I want us to look at here is the word Supply...

Here the Greek Root Word for Supply is: **epichorēgeō**

pronounced: ep-ee-haray-gay-o

Some Greek scholars find Paul's use of this word to be surprising or odd, but it's powerful once you understand its meaning.

epichorēgeō: on behalf of the choir

In Ancient Classical Greece there is a story of a Choir that committed everything that they had and exhausted every resource of time, effort and strength to prepare and arrange this grand performance.

There was only one problem, they ran out of money which meant the show was over before it began.

From all appearances their dream was over before the show ever got started. Upon hearing about the crisis a wealthy man stepped up and made a very large contribution on behalf of the choir. It was just what they needed to get the show back on the road, in fact it was such a large contribution that it not only covered all the expenses but was more than they needed or even knew how to spend. It was exceedingly, abundantly, above their need.

This is where we get the word Supply in Philippians 1:19 that now describes the enormous contribution of the Spirit that Jesus Christ wants to give you and me.

In light of this Philippians 1:19 could read like this;

I am certain that this situation will ultimately turn around and result in my deliverance, I am sure of it first because you are praying for me and second because of the special contribution of the Spirit that Jesus Christ is donating for my present cause...

This means when you've run out of steam and you've given your best effort and are unable to take one more step, that is exactly the moment when Jesus Christ becomes your personal benefactor.

Colossians 3

1 Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

Closing:

Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world...

Don't be overcome by the world around you...

or the troubles that you see...

God is a Deliverer

He works powerfully through prayer and has promised us a great supply of the Spirit