

**The Joy of Living**  
**Philippians 1:19-26**  
**Seeing the End of All Things**

- Certainty can be supplied by the prayers of God's people and the provision of God's Spirit. (v. 19-20)
- There is a mysterious but real link between the prayers of God's people and the provision and supply of the Holy Spirit.
  - The definite article is shared between the words prayer and help; therefore, the reason Paul knows that all will be well is because God's people are praying, and God is supplying the support of the Spirit through those prayers.
  - "Paul is suggesting that the presence of the Spirit will be supplied to Paul through the prayers of the Philippians." – Frank Thielman
  - So, Paul can stretch his neck forward with "intense expectation of something that is sure to happen" when he thinks about his upcoming trial.
  - His intense expectation is that he will ultimately triumph over evil because his hope is in the Lord.
  - His victory wasn't dependent on the outcome of his upcoming trial; rather, his victory had everything to do with the exaltation of Jesus in his life or death.
- Confidence in the outcome of our lives is not based on the certainty of our knowledge but on the conviction that Christ is enough. (v. 21-26)
  - In Paul's thinking, living and dying both have reward.
    - To live means that Paul will get to continue to labor for Christ, to see Him transform lives.
    - Hard pressed means to be stuck or pulled between two immovable forces.
    - Paul makes a distinction between what is better and what is necessary.
  - It is better, in Paul's mind, to depart ("to break camp") and be with Christ.
    - It is more necessary for him to stay and continue to minister.
    - For some reason, Paul had a deep belief that he would be released from prison and begin to travel again; therefore, he tells the Philippians of this confidence and what it means for him and for them.