

1 **Christian Detour**

Philippians 1:12-18

2 **Last week... Philippians 1:6**

6 And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

- God is not a failure and will not fail

3 **Last week... Maturity - Philippians 1:9-11**

9 And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, 10 so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, 11 filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

- Great Definition of Sanctification

4 **Last week... Love - Philippians 1:7-8**

7 It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus.

- Real support
- Christianity was more than there circle, but not less than.
- Gospel work = Defense

5 **Intro**

Okay, we have all been on a detour...

6 **1 A Lesson In Providence (1:12)**

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

7 **Q: What are God's works of providence?**

A: God's works of providence are, his most holy,¹ wise,² and powerful preserving³ and governing all his creatures and all their actions.⁴

1. Psalm 145:17. The Lord is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

2. Psalm 104:24. O Lord, how manifold are thy works! in wisdom hast thou made them all: the earth is full of thy riches.

3. Hebrews 1:3. Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high.

4. Psalm 103:19. The Lord hath prepared his throne in the heavens; and his kingdom ruleth over all.

Matthew 10:29-30. Are not two sparrows sold for a farthing? and one of them shall not fall on the ground without your Father. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.
Job 38-41.

8 **2 A Lesson In Progress (1:12-14)**

I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, 13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ. 14 And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

9

The term here rendered "confident" (pepoithotas) means to become "bold" or "fearless." When Paul arrived in Rome in chains, many Christians were likely paralyzed by the fear of a tsunami of persecution that might be coming, but when they saw the power of his witness and its effects on the Roman elite they must have thought, "If he can do this while on trial for his life, how much more should we be able to accomplish."

Osborne, Grant R.. Philipians Verse by Verse (Osborne New Testament Commentaries) .
Lexham Press. Kindle Edition.

10 **3 A Lesson In Purpose (1:15-18)**

15 Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. 16 The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. 18 What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.

11 **4 Application**

1. God's plan is probably different than yours... even if you follow Him.
2. The 'Word' is probably more important than you think it is.
3. Having a bad season? Wait on God and follow Christ in the Gospel and you will find new joy.

12

Can a detour = Joy?
How to cash in on this truth...

13

14

Ephesians 1:6-8
6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight