

# Honoring Christ ... by Life or Death

During October we have been focused on life after healing. We've mainly concentrated on Philippians 1 and the joy Paul experienced from the life God created for him upon his conversion. From a human perspective, he was not in the most desirable circumstances. But, for Paul joy was not related to circumstance. All that mattered was the advancement of the gospel, God magnified, and Christ exalted. To experience true, spiritual joy, the kind Paul talked about, will involve our total surrender.

## I. Philippians 1.19a - Certainty

- A. God Delivers the Righteous
- B. 1.19a - *Because I know this will lead to my salvation. "deliverance or escape."*
- C. Psalm 18.16: *He reached down from on high and took hold of me; he pulled me out of deep water.*

## II. Philippians 1.19b - Prayer

- A. A Life Rooted in Prayer. Philippians 1.19a - *through your prayers...*
- B. God brings His purposes to pass in concert with the prayers of the saints.
- C. Ephesians 6.18-19 - Paul believed God works His promises through the prayers of the saints. *Pray also for me, that the message may be given to me when I open my mouth to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel.*

## III. Philippians 1.19c - Help from the Spirit

- A. Philippians 1.19b - *help from the Spirit of Jesus Christ...*
  - 1. *Help* means "to supply" or "make provision for."
  - 2. John 14.26 - Even for us, *the Spirit will bring the resources of God.*
  - 3. Galatians 5.22-23 - He has added his fruit to your life.
- B. Romans 8.27-28
  - 1. 8.28 - What makes this possible?
  - 2. 8.27 - Do you see the help of the Spirit here? His provision?

## IV. Philippians 1.20 - Confidence in the Promise of Christ

- A. 1.20a - *my eager expectation.*
  - 1. *"To watch, with outstretched head." "to watch anxiously."*
  - 2. Then he adds the word hope. NEB: *for as I passionately hope.*
- B. 1.20b - *with all courage, Christ will be highly honored in my body...*
  - 1. Isaiah 49.23 - those who wait for me shall not be put to shame.
  - 2. His desire was to honor Christ .... whether by life or death.

## V. As We Close...

- A. God delivers the righteous.
- B. There is power in prayer.
- C. If you need help, the Spirit will supply you with power.
- D. Christ will never fail you.