

Philippians

Chapter 1:21-30

- I. **Philippians 1:21** ²¹For to me to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.
- a. **Life Motto to live is Christ and to die is gain**
 - b. Live
 - i. **Colossians 3:3-4** ³For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ, *who is* our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory.
 - ii. **Galatians 2:20** ²⁰I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.
 - c. Die
 - i. **Hebrews 2:15** ¹⁴Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise took part of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil; ¹⁵And deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage
 - d. Gain
 - i. **Philippians 3:7** ⁷But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.
 - ii. **I Corinthians 9:19-22** ¹⁹For though I be free from all *men*, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. ²⁰And unto the Jews I became as a Jew, that I might gain the Jews; to them that are under the law, as under the law, that I might gain them that are under the law; ²¹To them that are without law, as without

law, (being not without law to God, but under the law to Christ,) that I might gain them that are without law. ²²To the weak became I as weak, that I might gain the weak: I am made all things to all *men*, that I might by all means save some.

- iii. **I Timothy 6:5-6** ⁵Perverse disputings of men of corrupt minds, and destitute of the truth, supposing that gain is godliness: from such withdraw thyself. ⁶But godliness with contentment is great gain. ⁷For we brought nothing into *this* world, *and it is* certain we can carry nothing out.

II. **Philippians 1:22** ²²But if I live in the flesh, *this is* the fruit of my labour: yet what I shall choose I wot not.

- a. The but is in contrast to the previous verse. He's going back to the original point of "live". Now, he mentions "in the flesh"

- i. Not flesh in the sense of our sin nature

- 1. **Galatians 5:16** ¹⁶*This* I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.

- ii. Flesh as a body or person

- 1. **Genesis 2:21-24** ²¹And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; ²²And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. ²³And Adam said, *This is* now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man. ²⁴Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

- iii. We are spiritual beings.
- iv. Soul, Spirit,...only flesh can die and must be changed for eternity
- v. **Philippians 3:21** ²¹Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.
- vi. **I Corinthians 15:53-54** ⁵³For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality. ⁵⁴So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

b. Fruit

i. Used of Spirit

- 1. **Galatians 5:22-23** ²²But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, ²³Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

ii. Used as a picture of our labor

- 1. **Colossians 1:28-29** ²⁸Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all wisdom; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus: ²⁹Whereunto I also labour, striving according to his working, which worketh in me mightily.

iii. Even at the beginning. Only certain types can bear fruit as types

- 1. **Genesis 1;11-12** ¹¹And God said, Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb yielding seed, *and* the fruit tree yielding fruit after his kind, whose seed *is* in itself, upon the earth: and it was so

c. Shall choose

- i. Obviously, it is appointed unto man once to die then the judgment. This is hypothetical. Paul doesn't even reveal his choice.
 - ii. **Hebrews 9:27** ²⁷And as it is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment:
 - iii. Not our choice
- III. **Philippians 1:23** ²³For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:
 - a. Depart
 - i. Not purgatory or soul sleep
 - ii. **II Corinthians 5:8** ⁸We are confident, *I say*, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.
 - iii. **Luke 23:40-43** ⁴⁰But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed justly; for we receive the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. ⁴²And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. ⁴³And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise.
 - b. Better
 - i. This is the gain of Philippians 1:21
- IV. **Philippians 1:24** ²⁴Nevertheless to abide in the flesh *is* more needful for you.
 - a. This is a key point
 - i. Paul shares his desire but says “nevertheless”. Others greater than self. This will be driven home in chapter 2
 - ii. Flesh= life
 - iii. Paul acknowledges that there is value in being physically present.

- iv. **I Corinthians 1:10-11** ¹⁰Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment. ¹¹For it hath been declared unto me of you, my brethren, by them *which are of the house* of Chloe, that there are contentions among you.
- v. **I Corinthians 7:1** ¹Now concerning the things whereof ye wrote unto me: *It is* good for a man not to touch a woman.

- V. **Philippians 1:25** ²⁵And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith;
 - a. This confidence “continue with you”
 - i. Goes back to his thought that he’d see them again
 - b. For your furtherance
 - i. This was needful
 - ii. The gospel needed to be futhered
 - iii. They needed to be spiritually further
 - c. Joy of faith
 - i. Saved by faith...there is joy in that
 - ii. **Ephesians 2:8-9** ⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.
 - iii. **Romans 10:17** ¹⁷So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
- VI. **Philippians 1:26** ²⁶That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.
 - a. Rejoicing more abundant “in Christ”

- i. **Romans 5:11** ¹¹And not only *so*, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.
- ii. **II Corinthians 10:17** ¹⁷But he that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.
- iii. **I Corinthians 1:31** ³¹That, according as it is written, He that glorieth, let him glory in the Lord.
- b. Coming to you again
 - i. Continue with you vs 25
 - ii. **Philippians 2:24** ²⁴But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly.

VII. **Philippians 1:27** ²⁷Only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ: that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs, that ye stand fast in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

- a. Conversation
 - i. Another Life Motto...let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ
 - 1. **Titus 2:10-12** ¹⁰Not purloining, but shewing all good fidelity; that they may adorn the doctrine of God our Saviour in all things. ¹¹For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, ¹²Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;
 - 2. Laser focused on the mission and unity (See Philippians chapter 2)
 - 3. **II Corinthians 5:8-20** ¹⁸And all things *are* of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; ¹⁹To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world

unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. ²⁰Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* by us: we pray *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

4. **I Timothy 2:4** ⁴Who will have all men to be saved, and to come unto the knowledge of the truth.

VIII. **Philippians 1:28** ²⁸And in nothing terrified by your adversaries: which is to them an evident token of perdition, but to you of salvation, and that of God.

a. Terror of adversaries

i. **Romans 12:18:21** ¹⁷Recompense to no man evil for evil. Provide things honest in the sight of all men. ¹⁸If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men. ¹⁹Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but *rather* give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance *is* mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. ²⁰Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. ²¹Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good.

IX. **Philippians 1:29** ²⁹For unto you it is given in the behalf of Christ, not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for his sake;

a. Believe

i. **Ephesians 1:13** ¹³In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise,

b. Suffer

i. **II Timothy 3:12** ¹²Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.

ii. I Peter 5:9-10 ²Whom resist stedfast in the faith, knowing that the same afflictions are accomplished in your brethren that are in the world. ¹⁰But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle *you*.

X. **Philippians 1:30** ³⁰Having the same conflict which ye saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

a. Paul's example

i. Philippians 4:9 ⁹Those things, which ye have both learned, and received, and heard, and seen in me, do: and the God of peace shall be with you.

ii. I Timothy 1:16 ¹⁶Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

iii. I Corinthians 11:1 ¹Be ye followers of me, even as I also *am* of Christ.

iv. Romans 11:13 ¹³For I speak to you Gentiles, inasmuch as I am the apostle of the Gentiles, I magnify mine office: