

PHIL 1:21-30

PAUL'S CHALLENGE TO THE CHURCH -

THE BIBLE "WARNS" US - "REPEATLY" - THAT DEATH IS NOT THE END - (Heb 9:27) "FOR" -

"IT IS APPOINTED UNTO MAN ONCE TO DIE - BUT - AFTER THIS - THE JUDGEMENT" -

THOSE WHO LIVE WITHOUT CHRIST - WILL -
DIE WITHOUT CHRIST -

PAUL'S LIFE WAS TO "MAGNIFY" CHRIST - SO -
THE PROSPECTS OF DEATH - "WELCOMED" -

FOR ME TO LIVE - "IS CHRIST" -

"CHRIST" IS THE CENTER OF CHRISTIANITY
ALL ELSE - "THE CIRCUMFERENCE" -

"SO" -

WE SEE:

CHRISTIANITY IS CHRIST - AND -
THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS CHRIST -

① FAITH IN CHRIST - "ALONE FAITH, THE
ONLY WAY OF SALVATION" -

② FELLOWSHIP WITH CHRIST - "CONTINUAL"
JOY & PEACE" -

③ FOLLOWING AFTER CHRIST - "CHRIST CALL"
"FOLLOW ME" - "NOT TO THE LIVING ROOM" -
BUT THE BATTLE FIELD -

(FOLLOWING CHRIST = PAUL'S LIFE)

- PAUL'S LIFE WAS CHRIST - NOT THE LAW,
NOT THE CIRCUMSTANCES OR CEREMONIES.

(HIS LIFE = SIMPLE INTIMACY WITH CHRIST)

NO FAITH IN RELICS, PROPER PHRASES,
IN CHURCH SACRAMENTS OR WORKS.

--- "NO" -- HE WAS ONE WITH CHRIST!!!

THEY "EAT" TOGETHER -- "SLEEP" TOGETHER --
"SERVED" TOGETHER -- "WORSHIPPED" TOGETHER
-- "LIVED" -- "BREATHE" TOGETHER -- &
"WOULD DIE TOGETHER"

(1 CO VS 21-22)

"MY FLESHLY FRUIT" IS GOVERNED BY
"THIS ONENESS"; "I CANNOT CHOOSE"

-- "WE DO TOGETHER" --

[CHRIST LIVED WITHIN PAUL -- "AS"
PAUL'S LIFE --

THOU PAUL "DESIRED TO DEPART" -- "YET"

(1523) WHAT ABOUT HIS "FRIENDS" -- HE
LOVED & PRAYED FOR!

I] HIS COMMITMENT TO THEM - (24)
DESIRE DEPART -- DUTY --
"STAY" -- FOR THERE SAKE -- WAS "

(A) ONE OF SERVICE -

"I DO NOT WISH TO BE GONE -- BEFORE
MY TIME" -- "LET ME REMAIN"

(AS)

① A PILOT AT HIS WHEEL -

"LAST TO LEAVE THE SHIP"

"IN HARM'S WAY" -- "FOR YOUR SAKE"

OLD
FONT
NEW

(KIDS PLAYING IN SAND -- WHEN
TRUCK'S BRAKES FAILED)

② AS A SHEPHERD NEAR HIS FLOCK -
TO PROTECT -- FEED -- CLOTH --

"TO STAND IN THE GAP FOR"

③ A SENTRY AT HIS POST -

LEAD A SOUL TO CHRIST -- SEEK --

A ~~WAYWARD~~ WAYWARD SHEEP --

TO HELP ONE SOUL IN DISTRESS

OR

MORE NEEDFUL TO STAY

⑧ ONE OF SACRIFICE - (28)

PAUL WAS:

① WILLING TO TURN HIS BACK ON HEAVEN -

② TO A FEW MORE 'TEARS' 'TOILS' -
'CONFLICTS' - TO MEET THEIR NEED -

- THEIR FAITH BE BUILT UP - AND
JOY MAY BE 'FULLER' -

III PAUL'S CONCERN FOR THEM - (27-30)

PAUL MOVES FROM 'FIRST PERSON' -
HERE, IN HIS WRITING - 'AND' -

'PLEAS TO THE CHURCH' - - -
LET YOUR CONVERSATION - 'BECOME' THE
'GOSPEL OF CHRIST' !

CONVERSATION = (HOW WE LIVE)
NOT 'WORDS' - BUT OF 'WORKS'
NOT 'LANGUAGE' - BUT 'LIFE'

LIKE OLD PROVERB:

'WHAT YOU DO SPEAKS SO LOUD - I CAN'T
HEAR WHAT YOU SAY' -

"BECOMETH" = "ADORN"

EXAMPLE = WE SAY: (YOUR CLOTHS BECAME YOU)

THEY WERE CHALLENGED TO BE "ADORNED"
THE "GOSPEL OF CHRIST" -- TO COMPLEMENT
"THE GOSPEL"

(TITUS 2:10) "THAT THEY MAY 'ADORN' THE
DOCTRINE OF THE GOSPEL --- GOD OUR
SAVIOUR -- IN ALL THINGS"

① DO YOUR "CHRISTIAN GARMENTS" BECOME
YOUR CHRISTIAN PROFESSION - ?

② OUR MANNER OF LIFE AS A CHRISTIAN
EITHER HELPS OR HINDERS "THE GOSPEL" -

③ OUR "MANNER OF LIFE" EITHER RECOMMENDS
~~OR~~ THE TRUTH TO OTHERS --- OR ELSE
MAKES THE TRUTH "REPULSIVE"

PAUL'S CONCERN IS A "PLEA" TO
THE CHURCH -- A "CHALLENGE"

(A) TO STAND - (28, 30)

(B) TO STRIVE - (28)

(C) TO SUFFER - (29)

(A) TO STAND - (28, 30)

STANDFAST IN ONE SPIRIT, WITH "ONE MIND"

— "A WAR IS GOING ON" —

"YOUR ADVERSARIES" — (28)

THE SAME CONFLICT IN ME — (30)

THE GOSPEL "HAD" & STILL "HAS" ITS
"ENEMIES" STAND TOGETHER"

① ONE SPIRIT —

ALL MEMBERS OF THE BODY OF
CHRIST — HIS CHURCH — "UNIFIED"
IN SPIRIT — BY
"THE HOLY SPIRIT"

② ONE MIND —

— UNIFIED PURPOSE & PROGRAM
"WITH" NO DIVIDED OPINIONS —
(THE "BOND OF PEACE")

(EPA 4:3) ENDEAVOURING TO KEEP
THE UNITY OF THE SPIRIT — IN
THE "BOND OF PEACE" —

ONE SPIRIT

ONE MIND

BECAUSE YOU HAVE
"ADVERSARIES"

(B) TO STRIVE - (27)
"STRIVING TOGETHER"

MEANS: "TO CONTEND" ---
FOR THE "FAITH OF THE GOSPEL"

[TO COOPERATE AS "A TEAM" --- AGAINST
THE "ADVERSARIES" -- "SATAN'S TEAM"]

(JUDE 3) "BELOVED... EARNESTLY CONTEND
FOR THE FAITH"

(C) TO SUFFER - (28)
"CALLED BY GOD -- TO SUFFER"

"IT IS A GIFT" -- TO SUFFER ON CHRIST BEHALF

→ IT WAS PAUL'S EXPERIENCE + THEIRS (38)
ALSO OURS -- OUR PRIVILEGE

THIS SUFFERING IS --- THE PRICE
ONE PAYS WHEN HE SINCERELY
UNCOMPROMISINGLY "IDENTIFIES"
"HIMSELF" WITH CHRIST

WHAT A CHALLENGE -- TO THE CHURCH --
WILL WE ACCEPT IT?

STOP