

# Priorities and Passion

Philippians 1.12-30

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- Priorities are about keeping the main thing, the main thing.
- •The #1 priority for Paul in this passage is that the gospel of Christ goes forth.

<sup>12</sup> Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel. 13 As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ.

<sup>14</sup> And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear.

<sup>15</sup> It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. <sup>16</sup> The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.

<sup>17</sup> The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. 18 But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is preached. And because of this I rejoice.

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, <sup>19</sup> for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.

<sup>20</sup> I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

<sup>22</sup> If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! <sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; 24 but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body.

<sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, 26 so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

<sup>27</sup> Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel

without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God.

<sup>29</sup> For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, <sup>30</sup> since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

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Disclosure formula

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#### What does he want them to know?

- That "what has happened to me has actually served to advance the gospel." (.12)
- That even the Praetorian guard knows (.13)
- That wherever he is being confined, "most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to proclaim the gospel without fear." (.14)

# Phil. 1.14

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# "In Christ" or "in the Lord"

- C.F.D. Moule "what you are is 'in Christ' and what you become is 'in the Lord."
- You become in the Lord what you already are in Christ.

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Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, <sup>19</sup> for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. <sup>20</sup> I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. <sup>21</sup> For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. <sup>22</sup> If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! <sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; <sup>24</sup> but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. <sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup> so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel <sup>28</sup> without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God.<sup>29</sup> For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, <sup>30</sup> since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

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### .15-18a

- Christ is proclaimed (even if some are causing trouble for me or "adding" to my trouble)
- What does it matter?

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# Certain in Uncertainty

.19 I know it will be for my deliverance

- .19 I know it will be for my deliverance
- .20 exalted whether by life or death

- .19 I know it will be for my deliverance
- .20 exalted whether by life or death
- .21 for me to live.... Death sounds like a better deal

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- .23 for me die is better for me
- .24 for me to stay here is better for you

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- .24 for me to stay here is better for you
- .25-26 convinced of this, I know I will stay

#### Phil. 1.18-26

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### Phil. 1.18-26

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The Gospel is going forth

<sup>27</sup> Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel

without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God.

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- .27 whatever happens

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- .27
- Conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the Gospel
- Be united
  - Stand firm in the unity of one spirit
    - (HS or something else?)
  - Contending as one person
- .28 without being frightened
  - dominant secular use = shying horses
  - let oneself be intimidated (passive)

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- •Χαίρειν
- •Χάρις

• έχαρίσθη

• έχαρίσθη

- given
- an act of grace

• έχαρίσθη

- •given
- an act of grace
- To believe in him
- To suffer for him.

#### Priorities and Passion

- •Priority question: What do I really want in life?
- Passion question: What am I willing to pay for what I want?

### Priorities and Passion

• What does it mean, what does it look like to "conduct yourself in a manner worthy of the gospel" in what the video described as the "comfort zone"?

