

Week 3 - PHILIPPIANS 1:19-30
A Life Worthy of the Gospel

vv 19-26

Is Partnered with the Holy Spirit

"Prayer does not prepare you for the greater work, prayer is the greater work." Oswald Chambers

- *Two resources that Paul believed would affect his circumstances*
- *Christian hope, in contrast to worldly hope, is one of eager expectation that Christ will be glorified in His bride*
- *"Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see."* Hebrews 11:1

Paul's primary hope was in eternity with Christ. Paul's secondary hope was that Christ would be glorified as he stood before Cesar. "The use of the passive 'be exalted' rather than the active 'I exalt Christ' is unusual. It reflects Paul's conviction that essentially the Christian life involves following the leading of God's indwelling Spirit rather than seizing the initiative and doing things for God (cf. Galatians 5:16-18)." (T. Constable, 2013)

vv 27-28

Is Standing Firm in One Spirit

*"[The Greek word *stekete*, translated stand firm] conveys the idea of steadfastness, or unflinching courage like that possessed by soldiers who determinedly refuse to leave their posts irrespective of how severely the battle rages."* G. F. Hawthorne, 1983

"A worthy walk, then, means specifically the achievement of true Christian unity among themselves, and steadfastness against enemies of the gospel." R. C. Swift, 1984

*"not frightened" – a product of *hypomonen* in James 1:4-5*

vv 29-30

Will Experience Suffering

*(gk. *echaristhe* or granted, derived of *charis*) All believers have received a gracious gift from God. It is the privilege of suffering for Jesus Christ.*

"One of the reasons most of us in the West do not know more about the content of vv. 29-30 is that we have so poorly heeded the threefold exhortation that proceeds..." G. Fee, 1995

1. *Standing firm in one spirit*
2. *Striving side by side for the faith of the gospel*
3. *Not frightened in anything by your opponents*

Fellowship in the Gospel produces a fearlessness that only resides within the Church.

Philippians 1:19-30 English Standard Version (ESV)

To Live is Christ

Yes, and I will rejoice, ¹⁹for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, ²⁰as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. ²²If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. ²³I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. ²⁴But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with you all, for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that in me you may have ample cause to glory in Christ Jesus, because of my coming to you again.

²⁷Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel, ²⁸and not frightened in anything by your opponents. This is a clear sign to them of their destruction, but of your salvation, and that from God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you that for the sake of Christ you should not only believe in him but also suffer for his sake, ³⁰engaged in the same conflict that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.