

Overview

- 1-V1 Our culture emphasizes "being free to me." Personal freedom when the heart is a slave to sin causes problems. Paul says that he and Timothy are no longer slaves to sin. They are slaves to _____, following the example of Jesus, who became a slave for us.
- 2-V2 A wonderful way to begin a conversation: "May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you _____ and peace."
- 3-V3-4 What do we think about when think about each other? Paul thinks about the Philippians and gives _____. He _____ for them. And has a heart of _____.
- 4-V5 This is a church that has moved beyond coming to get fed when they feel hungry to a church that was feeding the world with THE BREAD OF LIFE (Jesus). This community has been Paul's _____ in sharing the gospel.
- 5-V6 "And I am certain that _____, who _____ a good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally _____ on the day when Christ Jesus comes _____ again."
- 6-V7 The Philippian church, unlike other churches, was always generous in sharing their _____ with Paul, their pastor, both when he was with them and in _____.
- 7-V9-10 Paul tells these people that the thing he prays for the most is that they would _____ each other more and more--- for that is what really _____.
- 8-V10 Our lives go by very quickly and sometimes end unexpectedly. What matters considering that is that we have been focusing on living _____ and _____ lives so that we are ready when Christ _____.
- 9-V11 It's hard to live like a slave, one who is not only obedient to the Master but also one who is dependent upon the Master. A well life is a _____ of our salvation -- the _____ things that change the world are produced in our lives by _____.
- 10-V12-14 Paul's being in prison has turned out to be an opportunity for spreading the _____. Everyone know-- prisoners and guards alike- that he is in chains because of _____. His keeping on even in prison made other Christians more _____.
- 11-V15-19 Paul comments about how jealous some preachers are. Some preach out of _____, some out of _____. Some, whom Paul has raised up, preach because they _____ him. Others are glad he is in prison—their selfish _____. doesn't have to compete with him. But all that matters, no matter what the motive, is that the message about Christ is being _____.
- 12-V20 The best motive is that our lives would always bring _____ to Christ.
- 13-V21-25 Paul says he is torn between two _____. To die and be with _____ or to _____ for the sake of the church, to help them grow into experiencing the _____ of their faith.
- 14-V27 The focus of our lives is to live in a manner _____ of the Lord. After all, we are no longer people of the worldly culture but _____ of heaven.
- 15-V27-28 Many Christians don't know that there is a war going on until they begin fighting for the _____, the truth that sets people free and sets Jesus up as king of the world. The furious acts of intimidation by the enemies of the Kingdom is a sign that they are going to be _____ and we are going to be _____ by God himself.
- 16-V29 "For you have been given not only the _____ of trusting in Christ but also the privilege of _____ for him. We are in this fight _____."

Word Study

- LOVE • SUFFER • DELIVERANCE • RETURNS • PREACH • SLAVE • WORK
- 1- 1:1 _____ The Greek word is DOULOUS, which can also mean bondservant. A bondservant works without pay for a designated number of years to pay a debt. A bondservant usually makes the decision to enter into the servant hood. Whereas a slave was a person captured in war or born of slaves--and was through no choice of their own- that they became a piece of property which the owner could do as he or she pleased with.
 - In some cases among the Hebrews a bondservant would choose after his term of service was over to become a slave to the people because he loved and trusted them and wanted the security of that household. In that case they would put a hole through his or her ear with an awl as a sign of that. (Deuteronomy 15:16,17. Christians think they are better off as a slave of Christ who himself became a slave to save us. (Philippians 2:7)
- 2- 1:6 _____ The fact of the life of a Christian is that Jesus in us makes us what we are, from the time of being born again until we are perfected in heaven. "For we are God's masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus." Philippians 2:10 • The work of the Christian is not self-improvement, making oneself good. It is yielding oneself to the Spirit of Christ. The Lord said, "Apart from me you can do nothing. I am the Vine, you are the branches. In Me you can bear fruit." John 15:1-8 Our character is "fruit of salvation."
- 3- 1:9 _____ The word for love here is AGAPE – God's kind of sacrificial love. The Message Bible puts the passage "So my prayer is that your love will flourish and that you will not only love much but well. Learn to love appropriately...not sentimental gush. Live a lover's life, circumspect and exemplary, a life Jesus will be proud of: bountiful in fruits from the soul, making Jesus Christ attractive to all....."
- 4- 1:10 _____ Life is short – eternity is long. We will all die and pass from this world to be with Christ forever in a re-created earth or—to a Christ-less eternity which Jesus spoke of as "outer darkness with weeping and gnashing of teeth." Matthew 25:30 We have to be careful that we are not tricked about what we do to be pure and blameless and ready for his return. Those who are ready are those who have YIELDED to the Spirit of God –who have made time -- to worship God every day – to focus on hearing his guidance for the day—to continually ask the Lord to change them into His likeness one thing after another.
- 5- 1:15 _____ The challenge for those who preach is to be full of Christ -- not full of themselves. Some men that Paul had raised up were so jealous of him that they were glad he was in prison, which left them to fill his place in the church. Paul took the high ground. He said he was always glad when the Good News got out even though the preachers had mixed motives. Jesus saves us from double mindedness and mixed motives.
- 6- 1:19 _____ Some commentators believe that Paul was in prison in Rome two times. The first time is recorded at the end of Acts when he wrote to the Philippians and Timothy and Titus. On the other hand, deliverance could be looked at as a spiritual preservation in an oppressive environment. The Amplified Bible translates this... "this will turn out for my preservation (for the spiritual health and welfare of my own soul..."
- 7- 1:20 _____ Paul speaks of suffering for Christ as a privilege not granted to all. There are very great eternal rewards for suffering for Christ and His Kingdom on earth. A friend of some of us--Chattra Tamang, a native of and missionary to Sikkim...saw this verse in a vision as he was about to be executed through drowning by rising water in his cell because he had forsaken Buddhism and was preaching Christ. At that point, the water drained down and he was released and commanded never to come back again---but he did.

What does this Scripture say to you? _____