

Doing time with joy



Paul's Letter from Rome to the Philippians

2. There's joy in living for Jesus *(here or heaven)*

Philippians 1:12-30

1:12 Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really 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. 14 Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly.

15 It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. 16 The latter do so in love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 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, 19 for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. 20 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. 21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. 22 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! 23 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. 25 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 joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.

27 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 one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel 28 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. 29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him, 30 since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

I'm a prisoner for preaching

▼ *There's a simple reason for these chains*

Philippians 1:13 I am in chains for Christ.

▼ *There've been some remarkable results from these chains*

▲ *An unexpected mission field*

Philippians 1:12 Now I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really 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.

Philippians 4:22 All the saints send you greetings, especially those who belong to Caesar's household.

▲ *An unleashed ministry force*

Philippians 1:14 Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God more courageously and fearlessly. 15 It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. 16 The latter do so in love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. 17 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.

I'm at peace with the plan

▼ *Will I be sentenced to death?*

▲ *There would be great gain in my death*

Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. 22 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! 23 I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;

▲ *There would be grace for my death*

Philippians 1:20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage

▲ *There would be glory in my death*

Philippians 1:20 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.

▼ *Will I be supernaturally delivered?*

▲ *God hears the prayers for my deliverance*

Philippians 1:18 Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, 19 for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance.

▲ *God has a purpose for my deliverance*

Philippians 1:22 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! 23 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.

▲ *God has the power and the plan for my deliverance*

Philippians 1:25 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 joy in Christ Jesus will overflow on account of me.

I'm preaching with my pen, Philippians

▼ *Be united and unified in the faith*

Philippians 1:27 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 one spirit, contending as one man for the faith of the gospel

▼ *Be unafraid and unashamed in the fight*

Philippians 1:28 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. 29 For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him, but also to suffer for him, 30 since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

1. *There are lost and needy people around us wherever we are, even in the pits and prisons of life!*
2. *God will strengthen us to be a witness and a blessing if we'll keep our hearts right and our minds focused!*
3. *Heaven is ahead, and we'll be ready when the Lord calls, but until then, let's keep working and rejoicing!*

Paul's Chains

- 57 AD ▲ After 24 years of missionary ministry, Paul is seized by the Jews in Jerusalem and charged with desecrating the temple. [Acts 21:27-30](#)
- ▲ The Roman military stationed at Jerusalem intercepts Paul amidst the Jewish riot and arrest him in order to investigate. [Acts 21:30-36](#)
- ▲ Paul speaks to the crowd of Jews with the Roman commander's permission, but they become angrier, calling for his death. [Acts 21:37-22:1](#)
- ▲ The Roman commander learns that Paul is a Roman citizen and changes his approach in line with Roman law. [Acts 22:22-29](#)
- ▲ At the commander's instruction, Paul stands before the Jewish Sanhedrin; Paul's tactical speech divides them. [Acts 22:29-23:11](#)
- ▲ A group of 40 Jews conspire with the chief priests to kill Paul by ambushing him during movements between locations. [Acts 23:11-22](#)
- ▲ Learning of the plot, the commander transfers Paul by night from Jerusalem to Caesarea to be received by Governor Felix. [Acts 23:22-35](#)
- ▲ All of this happened within a period of one week; Paul was in Jerusalem no more than 7 days. [Acts 21:27 + Acts 24:1 + Acts 24:11](#)
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- 57 AD ▲ Paul stands trial before Governor Felix (57-59 AD) at Caesarea, but Felix puts Paul's case on hold for two years. [Acts 24:1-26](#)
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- 59 AD ▲ Governor Felix at Caesarea is replaced by Governor Porcius Festus (59-62 AD). [Acts 24:27](#)
- ▲ Paul, still imprisoned at Caesarea, stands trial before Governor Festus and appeals to be heard by Caesar (Nero, 54-68 AD). [Acts 25:1-12](#)
- ▲ A few days later, Festus arranges for Paul to testify before King Agrippa (Herod Agrippa II, 50-70 AD). [Acts 25:13-26:32](#)
- ▲ Prisoner Paul, along with Luke and Aristarchus, under the charge of Roman Centurion Julius, sets sail from Caesarea. [Acts 27:1-8](#)
- ▲ The difficult voyage is interrupted by much stormy weather and an eventual shipwreck onto the island of Malta. [Acts 27:9-28:14](#)
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- 60 AD ▲ Paul arrives at Rome under Roman guard, where he is placed under house arrest, which lasts for two years. [Acts 28:14-31](#)
- ▲ While under house arrest in Rome from 60-62 AD, Paul writes Colossians, Philemon, Philippians, and Ephesians.
- ▲ Acts 28:30-31 describes that two-year period.

For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul's Voyage to Rome

ACTS 27-28 ✨ 59AD-60AD

