

**Review:**

Paul experienced a lot of suffering. He was in jail for about two years in Rome. While under arrest and in chains, the gospel was not chained. **Is 55:11** Paul touched the very household of Nero for Christ! The high point of chapter 1 verse 21 was “For me to be living is Christ! To die is GAIN!!”

**Verse 22 Bruised but Fruitful**

Paul’s body cumulatively was battered, bruised, and broken plus thorn in flesh. Knee toe pain. Fruitful **labor GK**: Energy, result or object of employment. Ever invest a lot of effort with no achievement? Strong desire to be harvesting. **Rom 1:13** harvest among you

**Verse 23 Can’t Decide?**

**Torn/hard-pressed GK**: Being pulled in two directions mentally speaking in a severe fashion.

**Desire GK**: to long for with an intense passion (greatly desire. Used for **Lust** in places)

**Depart GK**: Naval term. Loosening anchor of a ship to sail away to another place.

- Daily Life how often do we let go of our anchors and let God guide and direct?

**be** (Present tense) with Christ Paul II Cor 12 saw the 3<sup>rd</sup> Heaven. Absent from the body **present** with **Christ**.

- How much do I long for Jesus?
- How much are our eyes focused on life now striving to reach goals here?

**Better GK**: (Louw) being superior to something else in characteristics or function. “by far”

**What will it be like the moment believers die?**

- Absent from body present with Lord! In Jesus’ very presence! Luke 23:43 thief on cross.
- In the glory of eternity!
- New Glorious Body as per **I Cor 15:42-44** (Rem how Moses face glowed white?)

**What will it be like for unbelievers who never accepted Christ as their Savior?**

- **Dr. Rawlings**. Patient being revived: Shouted out, “I’m in Hell. Let me out!”
- Eternal fire & punishment, fiery furnace, lake of fire, continuous torment, darkness, weeping, gnashing of teeth, worm doesn’t die

Why does our bodies’ need raised from the dead if we are already in Heaven? I Thess 4:16 dead rise 1<sup>st</sup>

**Why Resurrection so important?**

- Proof sin was atoned for by Christ’s death and rising. Rom 6:23
- Christ rose as the “first fruits”.
- Sadducees. No believe in resurrection or angels. Large part of Jewish religious body.
  - Devil hard at work to run interference. Discourage people.
  - Same happens in religions and churches today. People pushing anti Bible doctrines.

We will be like Jesus! What do we know about Jesus’ spiritual body after his resurrection? He ate, was recognizable, traveled through walls,

**Verse 24 Necessity**

More **necessary GK**: being indispensable for an event to occur.

Stay on Earth, not Heaven. What does this tell us about Paul??

**Verse 25 Advancement**

**Convinced GK**: (Perfect) (Louw) believe in something or someone to extent of placing reliance or trust in or on

**Know GK**: (Present Indicative) Seeing to perceive. Carries idea of to be acquainted with. Think of a person you are well acquainted with. That is how Paul feels about his knowing!

**Progress GK**: (Louw) to change one’s state for the better by advancing & making progress. (Not Paul’s - theirs)

**Joy GK** State of joy and gladness. Rejoicing!

**FAITH**: This is what its all about! Growing our faith! 2 Peter 3:18 Grow in the grace and knowledge of Romans 10:13 Faith comes from hearing the word of God!

**Verse 26                      Stratospheric Joy**

“through Paul” being

**JOY** weak word translation choice. See **AMP** below “exultation and glorying in Christ”

**Abound GK:** (Louw) exist in abundance, the implication of being considerably more than what would be expected. (Present Subjunctive Active)

Philippians already joy filled as joy/rejoice is mentioned more than in any other of Paul’s books!

**Subjunctive:** Their joy can soar way higher to stratospheric levels than its already high levels!

**AMP:** 26 So that in me you may have abundant cause for exultation *and* glorying in Christ Jesus, through my coming to you again.

- When we come to believers, how much do we increase their “exultation and glorying in Christ”?

**Verse 27                      Weighty Life**

**Whatever happens/only GK** (Louw) the only entity in a class

**Conduct/conversation GK:** (Present Imperative mood Active voice) from a word speaking to the “political duties” of a person as a member of a certain body. carries idea of living as a **citizen**. Same in **Acts 23:1**

- Our citizenship is in heaven. Phil 3:20

**Manner GK:** (Louw) pertaining to having a relatively **high degree** of comparable **merit** or **worth**.

**Worthy GK:** Weighty! Equivalent weight compared to something else.

- How much weight is in my life?
- I Cor 3:12-13 The “fruits of our labor” will be tested with fire.

**Hear GK:** (aorist subjunctive mood active) Being far away in a Roman jail doesn’t stop faith’s manifestation.

**Standing Firm GK:** staying in a certain state. Standing Eph 6:10, 11, 13 Standing. Holding one’s ground!

- One Spirit **Acts 4:32**
- One Mind “soul” soulmates!

**Contending/striving GK:** to toil with someone in a struggle against opposition. (unity)

- **Jude 3, 4** (Read together) Contend GK: (Louw) exert intense effort on behalf of something. Struggle.
- Gospel is under attack. People focus on God is love. Folks say there are many ways to God!
- People try to put God in a box limiting him to being a way that works with their lives.

**Verse 28                      Signs**

**Frightened/alarmed/terrified GK:** (present passive/**middle** voice participle) to be frightened away, scared, fearful, intimidated by fear of Participle “ing word” ie: don’t let the opposers be frightening to you!

**Oppose/adversaries GK:** (present passive/**middle** voice participle) this is NOT a noun but a verb. Its an action!

A **sign GK:** (Zodhiates) The act of pointing out, particularly with the finger.

**II Thes 1:5-6** Read together

**Destroyed/destruction GK:** destruction and ruin. Think of Roman ruins. A shadow of their former glory.

- Could happen in this life.
- Definitely will happen in eternity!

**Paul** watched **Stephen’s** in Acts 7 suffering via the stoning unto death. I believe that impacted Paul.

- Steve was not fearful but brave.
- Paul was impacted and prepped for his Damascus Road Experience by Steve.

**Saved GK:** (Zodhiates) a savior, deliverer. Safety, deliverance, preservation from danger or destruction.

**AMP:** 28 And do not [for a moment] be frightened *or* intimidated in anything by your opponents *and* adversaries, for such [constancy and fearlessness] will be a clear sign (proof and seal) to them of [their impending] destruction, but [a sure token and evidence] of your deliverance *and* salvation, and that from God.

**Verse 29                      Intimacy in Suffering**

**Granted GK:** (Aorist **Indicative** {assertion of a fact} Passive voice) to give or grant graciously & generously, w/ the implication of good will on the part of the giver

Suffering draws us closer to Christ

- **Believe** (Present infinitive active)
- **Suffer GK:** (Present infinitive active) Acts 1:3 Word translated to passion of Jesus.

**Suffering's Purpose!**

**Job 1:8-12** None like him. Devil: You've blessed him beyond measure! No wonder he loves you and hates evil! Job's possessions were allowed to be touch by devil, but God told devil not to touch the man.

**Job 2:2-6** Devil: Man will give up all to save his hide. Allow his body to be afflicted. Then he will curse you! God puts on limits. Devil can touch Job, but NOT allowed to take his life.

**What do we learn from Job's encounter with suffering?**

- God is sovereign! Devil has limited power.
- **I Cor 10:13** God is faithful
- Fire and heat from fire purifies. Gold
- God allows people to glorify him by their lives and walk! **Phil 1:28!!**

**II Tim 3:10 - 12** live a godly life will be persecuted. Live & Will **GK:** Present tense.

- Not living for Christ, devil will not waste his resources on you.
- The closer we live for Christ, the more attention the devil's crew gives us.

**Responses to suffering:****Acts 14:22**

- **Enter GK:** from "in" and "to come".
- **Must GK:** (Present Indicative Active) Inevitable in the nature of things (Zodhiates)
- **Tribulation GK:** from to crush, press, compress, squeeze, to break. ie: Tribulation, trouble, affliction.
- **Many GK:** a relatively large quantity of objects or events (Louw)
- **Strengthening GK:** (Louw) cause someone to become stronger in the sense of more firm and unchanging in attitude or belief
- **Encouraging GK:** (Louw) cause someone to be encouraged or consoled, either verbal or non-verbally

**Acts 5:41** rejoiced they were counted worthy to suffer for name of Christ.

**I Peter 4:14 – 17** If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are blessed,

**I Peter 2:19 – 25** commendable if one bears up under the pain of unjust suffering cause they're God conscious

**Rom 12:20** Heap burning coals on their heads

**Purpose of Suffering**

Discussed this last time: James 1:2-3; Rom 5:3 – 5; matures us in our faith.

**II Cor 4:8 - 10** We always carry around in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be revealed in our body.

**Heb 5:8 – 9** Jesus learned obedience from what he suffered – made perfect source of eternal salvation.

**Phil 4:6-7** Suffering tests reality of this in us.

Focus on our suffering or focus on Christ? Matt 14:28 Peter water walk

**Rewards for Suffering**

**II Cor 4:17** our light an momentary troubles achieving us an eternal glory.

**II Tim 2:12** endure will reign with him. Luke 19:17 parable 10 minas 10 cities

**I Peter 4:13** But rejoice inasmuch as you participate in the sufferings of Christ, so that you may be overjoyed when his glory is revealed.

**Proverbs 25:22** Lord will reward

**Nero in Paul's Time**

Burned Rome and blamed Christians.

Time of GREAT Persecution for all believers. Human torches! Nero enjoyed watching believer's suffer.

- I wonder if Nero's household shared the gospel with him?
- I wonder if he thought of the eternal flames awaiting him?
- I wonder if the believers were a thorn in Nero's side?
- Did Nero think he was going to avoid the suffering in Hell because he was an "emperor", but he would make the believer's pay with suffering now?

**Rev** the 2 witnesses finally killed. World rejoiced & gave gifts to each other. New holiday 2 replace Christmas? When two resurrected, the world was in shocked like dead men!

Heb 11:38 World was not worthy of them.

**Verse 30**

**Going through GK:** (Present Active Participle) Ongoing. Not once and done event.

- Philippians were being persecuted for their faith.

**Struggle GK:** (Louv) engage in intense struggle, involving physical or nonphysical force against strong opposition.

Since the world hated Christ, how will the world feel towards us?

**Hear GK:** (Present Indicative Active)

**Applications for Us****1. Suffering Draws us Closer to Christ!**

- a. What is your mindset towards suffering, trials, and persecutions?
- b. Do you view suffering through the world's eyes or Jesus' eyes?

**2. Paul was longing for Christ, but knew staying here was better for the Philippian believers.**

- a. How much are we longing for Jesus and Heaven?
- b. How often do we think or reflect upon being with Jesus?

**3. Making the most of every opportunity.**

- a. Paul was always looking to make a harvest.
- b. How much fruit are we harvesting in our life and other's lives?

**Phil 1:22 – 30 x-tra Notes**

Job 42:5 My ears had heard of you but now my eyes have seen you.

Psalm 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word.

Esther 4:9-16 God sometimes allows us opportunity to "suffer" for him and with him for his glory and to positively impact others.

Devil roams around like a roaring lion to intimidate, distract, discourage, and cause us to doubt.