

Philippians 1:19-26

- 1) Confidence in God enables perseverance to the end—1:19-20 ¹⁹ *For I know that this* (joy of the Gospel being preached, even from wrong motives; 1:12-18) *will result in my salvation*
 - a) What is this salvation?
 - i) Paul always uses this word group [*soteria* 19x; *sozo* 29x] to refer to **spiritual** salvation, not **physical** deliverance.
 - ii) Spiritual salvation can refer to either *past* salvation, *present* salvation, or *future* salvation.
 - iii) Cf. Job 13:16 (LXX)
 - b) How? (these two aspects are linked closely in the Greek)
 - i) Human assistance: *through your^{pl} prayer*
 - (1) He knew they prayed for him, and he believed in the efficacy of their prayers. As an apostle, he was not beyond the need for their prayers.
 - (2) What a privilege that God chooses to use the prayers of His people as a means of supplying fellow believers with fresh measures of the Spirit of Christ to enable their perseverance in the faith to the end! (Harmon)
 - ii) Divine assistance: *and the provision [epichoregia] of the Spirit of Jesus Christ*,
 - (1) Generous provision—cf. 2nd Corinthians 9:10; Galatians 3:5; 1st Peter 4:11; 2nd Peter 1:11
 - (2) Spirit of Jesus Christ—cf. Romans 8:9; Galatians 4:6
 - (a) The Spirit proceeds from the Son (cf. John 15:26)
 - c) In what way?
 - i) Concentrated: ²⁰ *according to my eager expectation and hope*,
 - ii) Contrasted: (cf. Psalm 34:3-5)
 - (1) Negatively: *that I shall not be put to shame* (before God) *in anything*,
 - (2) Positively: *but that in all boldness, as always, even now Christ will be esteemed highly* (made conspicuous) *in my body, whether by life or by death*.
- 2) Confidence in God enables self-sacrificial service to others—1:21-26
 - a) Basic principle of glorifying Christ: ²¹ *For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain*.
 - i) ²² *But if I am to live in* (the sphere of) *the flesh, this will mean fruitful activity for me; yet I do not know which to choose*.
 - b) Difficult choice: ²³ *Now I am hard-pressed between the two*,
 - i) To die? *having the desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better*;
 - (1) A synonym for death
 - (2) Cf. 2nd Corinthians 5:1-10
 - ii) To live? ²⁴ *but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for your^{pl} sake*.
 - c) Remain available: ²⁵ *And being persuaded* (cf. 1:6) *of this* (cf. 1:24), *I know that I shall remain and stay with you^{pl} all for your^{pl} progress and joy in the faith*,
 - i) Why? ²⁶ *so that your^{pl} confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming again to you^{pl}*. (cf. 2:23-24)