

The Book of Philippians

I. CHRIST IS LIFE'S PURPOSE (PHILIPPIANS 1; 1:21).

The knowledge of this wonderful truth allowed Paul to accomplish three things.

- A. He could rest in God's security (1:1-12).
 - 1. Paul's greetings to the saints (1:1-2).
 - 2. Paul's thanksgiving for the saints (1:3-8).
 - 3. Paul's prayer concerning the saints (1:9-11).
 - 4. Paul's explanation to the saints (1:12).
- B. He could rejoice in great suffering (1:13-20).
 - 1. The cause of his fetters (1:13).
 - 2. The circumference of his faith (1:13).
 - 3. The courage of his friends (1:14).
 - 4. The carnality of his foes (1:15-17).
 - 5. The conclusion of the facts (1:18).
 - 6. The confidence in his future (1:19).
- C. He could remain in glad service (1:21-30).
 - 1. God's will for the apostle (1:22-26).
 - a. His desire was to depart and be with the Savior (1:23).
 - b. His decision was to remain and minister to the saints (1:24).
 - 2. God's will for the Philippians (1:27-30).

II. CHRIST IS LIFE'S PATTERN (PHILIPPIANS 2; 2:5).

This refers to the two beautiful Christian virtues of unity and humility.

- A. The exhortation to these virtues (2:1-4).
 - 1. They are available (2:1-2).
 - 2. They are attainable (2:2-4).
- B. The examples of these virtues (2:5-30).
 - 1. The example of Christ (2:5-8).
 - a. He left heaven's glory (2:6-7).
 - b. He made himself of no reputation (he refused to use his divine attributes in an independent way) (2:7).
 - c. He was made in the likeness of men (2:7).
 - d. He took the form of a servant (2:7).
 - e. He humbled himself (2:8).
 - f. He became obedient unto death (2:8).
 - g. He died on a cursed cross (2:8).
 - 2. The example of the Father (2:9-11).
 - 3. The example of Paul (2:12-18).
 - a. What the apostle had done (2:16-17).
 - b. What the Philippians were to do (2:12-15, 18).
 - (1) They were to work out their salvation (2:12-14).
 - (2) They were to hold out their illumination (2:15).
 - 4. The example of Timothy (2:19-24).
 - a. To the church he had served as a shepherd (2:19-20).
 - b. To the apostle he had served as a son (2:22).
 - 5. The example of Epaphroditus (2:25-30).
 - a. His service (2:25).
 - b. His sickness (2:27).
 - c. His sacrifice (2:30).

III. CHRIST IS LIFE'S PRIZE (PHILIPPIANS 3; 3:14).

- A. The corrupters of this prize (3:1-3, 18-19).
 - 1. Who they were--the Judaizers (3:2).
 - 2. What they were--enemies of the cross of Christ (3:18).
 - 3. Where they were headed--for destruction (3:19).
- B. The cost of this prize (3:4-6). Becoming a Christian had cost Paul the many natural advantages of his background.
- C. The crown of this prize (3:7-17, 20-21).
 - 1. He gained a new knowledge (3:7-8).
 - 2. He gained a new righteousness (3:9).
 - 3. He gained a new power (3:10).
 - 4. He gained a new goal (3:11-17).

5. He gained a new hope (3:20-21).

IV. CHRIST IS LIFE'S POWER (PHILIPPIANS 4; 4:13).

- A. This power can unify (4:1-3).
- B. This power can magnify (4:4-5).
- C. This power can fortify (4:6-7).
- D. This power can purify (4:8).
- E. This power can exemplify (4:9).
- F. This power can satisfy (4:10-13).
- G. This power can ratify (4:15-17).
- H. This power can sanctify (4:18).
- I. This power can multiply (4:19).
- J. This power can glorify (4:20).
- K. This power can justify (4:21-23).