#### PHILIPPIANS 1:19-26

# FOR TO ME, TO LIVE IS CHRIST, AND TO DIE IS GAIN

- Attain the resurrection of the dead
  - 3:11
  - Jn 5:28-29

"Tis a sweet and glorious thought that comes to me...I'll live on"

- Transformation of his lowly body to be conformed to His glorious body
  - 3:21
  - I Cor 15:50-54

"Till from Mount Pisgah's lofty height I view my home and take my flight. This robe of flesh I'll drop, and rise to seize the everlasting prize. And shout while passing through the air, 'Farewell, farewell, sweet hour of prayer."

- Be with Christ
  - 1:23
  - I Thes 4:17
  - I Pet 1:8-9

"Face to face with Christ my Savior, face to face what will it be, when with rapture I behold Him, Jesus Christ, who died for me?"

- Going home
  - 3:20

"This world is not my home, I'm just a passing through..."

"Up to the bountiful giver of life, gathering home, gathering home..."

- Christ is glorified in the death of His saints
  - Phil 1:20
- Ps 116:15
  - Precious
- I Pet 2:12
  - Others may glorify
- Phil 1:13-14
  - Others more bold to speak

#### Aim, purpose

- To live in gratitude
  - 1:3
  - 4:6
- Having the mind of Christ
  - 2:1-11
  - Lowliness of mind, humility → servitude
  - Rom 12:1-2

- To know Christ
  - 3:8
  - His holiness, His purity, His character, His example in suffering
  - Intimate fellowship

"Hand in hand we walk each day, hand in hand along the way, walking thus I will not stray, hand in hand with Jesus"

- To have the righteousness which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith
  - 3:9
  - Rom 3:21-26

- To have fruit from his labor
  - 1:22
  - 1:24-25
  - 1:13, 18
- To make known Christ to others
- To establish others in the faith

- Sharing in Christ's sufferings
  - 3:10
  - I Pet 2:23
- Pressing on to greater heights
  - 3:13-14
  - Effort and diligence

- Rejoicing
  - 3:1
  - 4:4
  - Peace, comfort, blessedness of being in Christ → Joy!
- Abiding strength and sufficiency in Christ
  - 4:11-13

- Christ is glorified in the life of His saints
  - Phil 1:20
- Boldness
- I Cor 3:5-7
- Mt 5:16

## TO ME, TO LIVE IS CHRIST

- Daily thanksgiving
- Mind of humility, serving others
- Knowing Christ
- Faithful obedience
- Labor in the kingdom
- Sharing in His sufferings
- Climbing higher
- Rejoicing
- Relying upon strength and sufficiency in Christ

## TO ME, TO LIVE IS CHRIST

### "TO ME"

- Personal
- Must answer

To me, to live is

#### To me, to live is pleasure

- I Tim 5:6
- Jas 5:5
- Paul? NO
  - 2 Cor 12:10
- James? NO
  - Jas 1:12
- Peter? NO
  - I Pet 4:13

To me, to live is ease

• Lk 12:19

Paul? NO

• 2 Cor 12:15

To me, to live is possessions

- Mt 19:22; Lk 18:23
  - Possessed by his possessions
- First century Christians? NO
  - Ax 4:34-37

To me, to live is praise and approval of men

- Jn 12:42-43
- Mt 6:1
- Paul? NO
  - Gal 1:10

## ...THEN TO DIE IS ...

- If for you, to live is pleasure, then to die is torture
- If for you, to live is ease, then to die is great difficulty
- If for you, to live is money or possessions, then to die is complete loss.
- If for you, to live is praise or approval of men, then to die is to be forgotten.

## BUT WORSE THAN ALL THAT, IF FOR YOU, TO LIVE IS NOT CHRIST, THEN:

Matthew 25:30, 46

# FOR TO ME, TO LIVE IS CHRIST, AND TO DIE IS GAIN

- Life not just existence
  - Aim, purpose
  - Devotion: Ax 17:23
  - Treasure: Mt 6:19-21
- Death not non-existence
  - Departure: Phil 1:23
  - An end to living on in the flesh 1:22

If you can honestly say, "for me, to live is Christ," only then you can say, "to die is gain"