

Whatever! As Long as Jesus Wins!

Philippians #3

January 21, 2024 // Sermon Study Guide // Pastor Mark Henry, D.D.

Text: Philippians 1:12–18

Truth Points: What truth was covered this Sunday in the message?

1. What kind of circumstance did Paul find himself in at this time? Put yourself in his place. How would you feel about life? Would you feel abandoned by God?

2. How did Paul view the situation in verse 12?

3. What two groups were impacted by Paul's imprisonment in Rome? Was he expecting this? Does Paul's suffering still have an impact? If so, how?

4. Christ was preached by others, but some loved Paul and others resented him. Define and describe each of these key words describing them:
Some Preach Christ:
 - Envy
 - Rivalry
 - Selfish Ambition
 - InsincerityOthers Preach Christ:
 - Good Will
 - Love

5. Do these two groups still exist today? Why is Paul about to rejoice over those folks who did not like him?

6. What is the difference between these two groups: those who must be confronted in Titus 1:10–16 and those who must be removed in 1 Timothy 1:3–20 and Galatians 1:6–9?

Reflection Points: How does God want me to think, feel, act, and speak because of this truth?

1. Am I in a difficult circumstance right now? Can I see how God is using it to advance the Gospel yet? Am I praying and watching for this moment?
2. How have my past hardships worked to advance the Gospel? Or have I wasted them in self-pity and as an excuse for evil?
3. Who does God have me chained to right now that needs to hear about Jesus? Who do I know who is in a hard place that I have already traveled? How do I help him/her find Jesus and His comfort like I experienced?
4. Have I learned the secret of joy in hard circumstances? Say it aloud – Whatever! As long as Jesus wins!

Action Points: What am I going to do **this week** because of this truth?

1. **Read:** Philippians 1:19–30 for next week to prepare your soul for church.
2. **Reflect** on the following:
 - How is God using my past and present circumstances to advance the Gospel?
 - Do I serve Jesus and the church out of love or envy and selfish ambition?
 - Have I learned the secret of Paul’s joy? Whatever! As long as Jesus wins!
3. **Memorize: Philippians 1:12 (ESV)**, “I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel...”
4. **Share** with another follower of Jesus what you are learning about God, the Bible, Jesus, etc. Help them follow Jesus better in 2024.