

PREACHING CHRIST  
PHIL. 1:15-19

Introduction:

- A. Paul was in chains at Rome.
  - 1. Everyone knew he was in bondage for preaching.
  - 2. "My bonds for Christ." v13
  
- B. His imprisonment caused the gospel to be preached more, not less.
  - 1. v12 "fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel."
  - 2. Paul took advantage of his disadvantage.

I. MOTIVES FOR PREACHING THE GOSPEL. V15

- A. "Envy and strife."
  - 1. envy = jealousy of another's success, envy of his excellency, always associated with the sight and sound of murder, as envy led to the first murder, Cain slew Abel.
  - 2. strife = rivalry, contention, quarrel.
  
- B. v16 "contention" "not sincerely"
  - 1. contention = any work for ambitious purposes, canvassing, intriguing.
  - 2. not sincerely = not with pure intentions.
  - 3. affliction = pressure, intensify.
  - 4. bonds = a bond, fetters, bound.
  
- C. "and some also of good will." v15
  - 1. "out of a loyal spirit and good will."
  
- D. "some out of love." v17
  - 1. "They know I am providentially set to defend the gospel."

II. PAUL'S ASSESSMENT OF THE SITUATION. V18

- A. "What then?"
  - 1. What is the truth?
  - 2. What is the real issue?
  
- B. The important thing is that the gospel is preached.
  - 1. pretense = a show to cover the real intent.
  - 2. truth = a pure motive, sincerely.
  
- C. Paul rejoiced in the preaching of Christ.
  - 1. "and I therein do rejoice, yea, and will rejoice."
  - 2. The most important thing in thanksgiving.
  
- D. Why would Paul rejoice in this?
  - 1. This is why he was in chains!
  - 2. This is why he was being taunted!
  
- E. The gospel is:
  - 1. The truth about Jesus that saves us.
  - 2. I Cor. 15:1-4.
  - 3. There are some truths about Jesus that will not save. (Pre-existence, existence, coming, sinlessness, His love.)
  - 4. It is God's power unto salvation.
    - a. Romans 1:16, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation: to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."
    - b. It is the truth God uses, a truth about Jesus.

III. THE OUTCOME OF IT ALL. V19

- A. "for I know that all this will turn out to my highest welfare." (also v12)
  - 1. "through prayer."
  - 2. "through Jesus Christ."