

THINGS THAT GO TOGETHER
PHIL. 1:27-30

Introduction:

- A. Paul has assured the Philippians of his state.
 - 1. He knew his life would count for Christ. v21
 - 2. He had confidence in God. v25

- B. Paul encouraged them to display certain positive and negative Christian characteristics.
 - 1. He reminds them that certain traits or actions complement one another.
 - 2. Really, things that go together.

I. SALVATION AND STEADFASTNESS. V27

- A. "only let your conversation be as it becometh the gospel of Christ."
 - 1. conversation = a member of a free city or state, to conduct one's self according to all the laws and customs of a state, hence to order one's life and conduct.
 - 2. becometh = weighing as much, of equal value.
 - 3. "Let there be an equal balance of what you profess and what you do."

- B. "that whether I come and see you, or else be absent, I may hear of your affairs."
 - 1. "when the cat is away, the mice will play."
 - 2. Paul wanted them to do right regardless of where he happened to be.
 - 3. In their midst or in prison.
 - 4. Some believe they hide from God when they hide from the preacher!

- C. What were they to do?
 - 1. "that ye stand fast in one spirit."

2. "that ye stand firm animated by one spirit."
3. "that .. with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel."
4. "and with one mind, fighting shoulder to shoulder for the faith of the gospel."

II. SALVATION AND SERENITY. V28

- A. "and in nothing terrified by your adversaries."
 1. nothing - no or not one.
 2. Negatives a supposition, and prohibits or forbids.
 3. "never be scared for a moment by your opponents."
 4. "not for a moment intimidated."

- B. Serenity in the face of adversity is token of two things.
 1. "which is to them an evident token of perdition."
 - a. token = a pointing out with a finger."
 - b. "your fearlessness is like a finger pointing them out as ones who will suffer utter and final ruin, which will not be reversed."
 2. "but to you of salvation, and that of God."
 - a. "But to you it will be a sure finger of God pointing out your salvation."
 - b. If God is, and we are His, we must bear His displeasure more than man's.

III. SALVATION AND SUFFERING. V29-30

- A. God, for Christ's sake has granted unto us, two things:
 1. ...to have faith in him.
 - a. This is saving faith.
 2. ...to undergo pain (but also to suffer).
 - a. suffer = to be affected by anything from without, to be acted on, to experience.
 - b. To suffer from things evil.

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B. They had seen this happen to Paul. v30

1. "Take your part in the same struggle that you have seen me engage in."
2. "we are in this fight together.. you have seen me suffer for Him in the past."

IV. SOME THINGS GO TOGETHER. DON'T ASK FOR THEM TO BE SEPARATED IN YOUR LIFE.

A. Salvation and steadfastness.

1. If we are saved, let us be steadfast.
2. Do not ask to be excused from your burden.

B. Salvation and serenity.

1. If we name His name, let us show no fear.
2. People judge God by the way His children act.

C. Salvation and suffering.

1. We are not above our Master.
2. Why should we expect our lives to be different.

