

By Life or By Death - Christ

Phil 1:19-21

For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰ according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. NKJV

2 Corinthians 1:5, 8-11 (NKJV) ⁵ For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ. . . . ⁸ For we do not want you to be ignorant, brethren, of our trouble which came to us in Asia: that we were burdened beyond measure, above strength, so that we despaired even of life. ⁹ Yes, we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves but in God who raises the dead, ¹⁰ who delivered us from so great a death, and does deliver us; in whom we trust that He will still deliver *us*, ¹¹ you also helping together in prayer for us, that thanks may be given by many persons on our behalf for the gift *granted* to us through many.

In many places Paul lays out these same thoughts. He had experienced a great amount of suffering.

- I. For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance
 - A. Romans 8:28 (NKJV) ²⁸ And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.
 - B. Job 19:25-26 (NKJV) ²⁵ For I know that my Redeemer lives, And He shall stand at last on the earth; ²⁶ And after my skin is destroyed, this I know, That in my flesh I shall see God,
 - C. John 10:27 My sheep hear My voice, and I know them, and they follow Me. ²⁸ And I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; neither shall anyone snatch them out of My hand.
 - D. Romans 8:38-39 (NKJV) ³⁸ For I am persuaded that neither death nor life, nor angels nor principalities nor powers, nor things present nor things to come, ³⁹ nor height nor depth, nor any other created thing, shall be able to separate us from the love of God which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.
- II. Through your prayer
 - A. **James 5:16 (NKJV)** ¹⁶ Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man avails much.
 - B. **Romans 15:30 (NKJV)** ³⁰ Now I beg you, brethren, through the Lord Jesus Christ, and through the love of the Spirit, that you strive together with me in prayers to God for me,

- C. **Ephesians 6:18-19 (NKJV)** ¹⁸ praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints-- ¹⁹ and for me, that utterance may be given to me, that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the gospel,
 - D. **2 Thessalonians 3:1 (NKJV)** ¹ Finally, brethren, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may run *swiftly* and be glorified, just as *it is* with you,
- III. And the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ
- A. **John 14:16-17 (NKJV)** ¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever-- ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.
 - B. **Galatians 5:22-23 (NKJV)** ²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law.
- IV. According to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always,
- A. The word here ashamed has the idea of being disappointed.
 - B. Romans 5:5 (NKJV) ⁵ Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
 - C. Romans 1:16 (NKJV) ¹⁶ For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.
 - D. 2 Timothy 1:12 (NKJV) ¹² For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day.
- V. So now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.
- A. Rom 14:8-10 ⁸ For if we live, we live to the Lord; and if we die, we die to the Lord. Therefore, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.⁹ For to this end Christ died and rose and lived again, that He might be Lord of both the dead and the living. NKJV
 - B. Acts 21:12-13 ¹² Now when we heard these things, both we and those from that place pleaded with him not to go up to Jerusalem.¹³ Then Paul answered, "What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus." NKJV