

Divine Perspective for Life (Philippians 1:18-25)

- Modern Christianity generally bears little resemblance to the New Testament
- Utilitarian Christianity: “church is there to meet my felt needs” is the climate
- Following Christ is costly: it will cost everyone like it cost the apostle Paul
- Paul faced his mortality & possible departure with the hope of the Gospel

I. The Basis of Paul’s Eternal Perspective: Sufficiency in Christ (1:18-20)

- Paul had enemies who sought to do him harm by preaching the Gospel (16)
- Paul’s perspective was: for whatever reason they preach, Christ is glorified
- Paul’s confidence: it will all work out for His deliverance in the end (v.19)
- His earnest hope & expectation: receive His divine inheritance in Christ (20)

II. The Basis of Paul’s Eternal Perspective: Inheritance in Christ (1:21-23)

- Many people waste their lives because they have nothing to die for! (v.21)
- Death for Paul meant that he would be present with Christ
- Whatever life would bring him: content to live for Christ or to die for Him
- There’s real tension for Paul: to stay is to serve Christ- to die is to be with Him
- Though this choice was hard for Paul to make, it was God’s choice to make

III. Basis of Paul’s Eternal Perspective: His Purpose in Christ (1:25-26)

- Vs 25-26 Paul testifies that God would not take him out of the world yet
- Why? God was not done with Paul yet, God is a selfless loving God to do this
- It is Christ’s desire to have His people with Him where He is (John 17)
- For the good of the church, for their growth & edification Paul will live
- God’s servants: Christ’s gifts to His church, He gives us to one another
- The pattern He leaves us, divine perspective we are all to have is servant hood

Mark 10:45; Eph 4: 15,16