

“To Live Is Christ”

Philippians 1:21

Introduction:

- A. Song: “He is my everything.”
 - 1. Who or what is your everything?
 - 2. Is it Self? Or family? Or job? Or property? Sports?
- B. Paul made Christ his everything.
 - 1. To die was gain because it meant being with Christ. (1:23)
 - 2. To live was Christ because it meant furthering the cause of Christ (1:24-26)
 - 3. To live or to die has its advantages in Christ — no need to tire of living or to fear dying.
- C. Paul gives several Christ-centered reasons the Christian has for living.

Discussions:

- I. To Live Is to Know Christ (3:8-10).**
 - A. May know about Christ, without knowing Christ.
 - B. Must obey Him to know Him. (1 John 2:3-5)
 - 1. To know Him is to be in Him — baptized into Him (Gal. 3:26,27).
 - 2. To know Him is to continue in Him (John 8:31-32).
- II. To Live Is to Make Christ Known (1:15-18).**
 - A. By preaching and defending the gospel (1:7; 17)
 - B. By our support of those who preach. (1:5; 4:15-17).
 - C. By our presence and influence in the world. (1:25, 26).
- III. To Live Is to Enjoy Christ (1:18; 3:1; 4:4).**
 - A. By doing His will (4:9).
 - B. By learning to lean on Him under all of life’s circumstances. (4:11-13)
- IV. To Live Is to Magnify Christ (1:20).**
 - A. By putting Lord’s cause above selfish interest. (1:23-25).
 - B. By being a credit to the name Christian (1 Pet. 4:16; Jas. 2:7)
- V. To Live Is to Imitate Christ (2:5).**
 - A. His mind toward the church (Eph. 5:25-27).
 - B. His mind toward sinners? (Luke 15:7; 1 Tim. 1:15).
 - C. His mind toward obedience (John 6:38; Heb. 5:8,9).
 - D. His mind toward false religion (Matt. 23:13,15,37).
 - E. His mind toward persecutors (Luke 23:34).
 - F. His mind toward self (Phil 2:3-8).
 - G. His mind toward the weak (Rom. 14:1;15:1-3).

Conclusion:

- A. Can you make the words of our text your words?
- B. Can you truly sing: “Christ is my everything?”