

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for August 4-5, 2001**

**Dale Whitehead**

**"Good Results from Bad Circumstances"**

**Philippians 1:18-26**

We need to know that Paul's anticipated future joy came from his assurance of ultimate salvation.

We need to know that Paul's anticipated future joy that came from his assurance of ultimate salvation was linked to the Philippians prayers and the provision of the Holy Spirit.

Paul is acknowledging by this statement that the continuing provision of the spirit was necessary for his ultimate deliverance. He also saw that a part of that supply was coming through the intercessory prayer of the Philippians.

Paul views himself as saved but that belief will not be verified in his mind until he crosses the finish line and receives the victor's crown (1 Corinthians 9:24-27).

Paul sees the prayers of the Philippians and the subsequent provision of the Spirit as essential if he is going to successfully run the race alluded to in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 and receive the prize.

We are saved as we place our faith and trust in Jesus Christ alone for our salvation (Ephesians 2:8-9).

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If an individual desires to be set free from their sins and the consequences of those sins all they have to do is by faith enter through the door that Christ opened and they will at that very moment be born again. They will become a new creature in Christ (2 Corinthians 5:17).

How can we know if our profession of so-called faith is real? It is by the way we live (Matthew 7:15-23).

If we profess to be Christians then we need to continue to press forward in the race until we are conformed to Christ. How can we be assured that we will continue to do this? One way we can be assured that we will continue to do this is through prayer.

Hopefully we have committed ourselves this weekend to the race that has been set before us. Hopefully in doing this we have also renewed our commitment to prayer both for ourselves and others.