

*Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes*

**Sermon Notes for August 11-12, 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.

We need to know that Paul's anticipated future joy was not only linked to the provision of the Spirit made possible through the prayers of the Philippians but it was also linked with Paul's earthly preoccupation.

Paul's earthly preoccupation was that Christ would be exalted.

The word "exalted" (MEGALUNO) means "to make long, large or to magnify." Because of Paul's chains, Christ was known and because of his critics, Christ was preached (1:18). Because of Paul's crisis which was continuing to unfold, Christ would not only be magnified but would continue to be magnified (1:20).

For Christ not to be exalted was a shameful thing.

The phrase, "but that with all boldness, Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death" contains three different modifiers.

The first modifier that Paul's used "with all boldness" pointed specifically to his speech. The basic meaning of "with all boldness" is "outspokenness" or "plainness of speech" that conceals nothing and passes over nothing.

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The second modifier is the phrase "shall even now as always." Since Paul's conversion to the unfolding events of his crisis his preoccupation has always been the exaltation of Christ.

The third modifier is "in my body, whether by life or by death." Paul wants the Philippians to know that his desire to exalt Christ in his unfolding crisis and beyond is his singular passion even if it results in his death.