

# MAKING THE BEST OF IT!

*Philippians 1:22-30*

CAN YOU REMAIN THANKFUL AND JOYOUS  
EVEN WHEN LIFE THROWS YOU AN INSIDE  
SLIDER AT YOUR HEAD?

Paul's Reason? *God makes everything work  
together for our good.* **Romans 8:28**

**GOD LOVES THE THANKFUL CHRISTIAN.**

## 2. LIFE AND DEATH CHOICE v. 22-23

PAUL'S INTERNAL DILEMMA: *Yet what shall I choose? I do not know!*

Actually He did not have a “*choice*” to make. Why? *The decision was really in God's hands.*

Yet if the decision were up to him, he wouldn't know what to choose *because BOTH ARE GOOD* —but heaven is better.

*There is absolute certainty in Paul's words.*

### **3. IT'S ALL GOOD v. 24-26**

**We must avoid two potential *joy stealing* errors:**

- 1. To work so hard in an earthly sense that we lose sight of our ultimate home with Christ**
- 2. To desire so much to be with Christ in heaven we neglect the work He has called us to do here on earth.**

***Live with one eye toward heaven—Paul made the most of each day—so should we.***

## **4. WORTHY CONDUCT v. 27-28**

**WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO LIVE—*worthy of the gospel?***

The answer is best revealed in an extended command to the church in **Colossians 1:10-12**

Being a believer in Jesus is indeed a high calling.

To live worthy of the Gospel does not mean we must live perfectly—and a Gospel worthy life is impossible outside of the Holy Spirit's help.

**YET BELIEVERS OUGHT TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE BECAUSE OF THE GRACE WE HAVE RECEIVED.**

# ***5. WHAT DOES THAT LOOK LIKE?***

- 1. The Church was to be standing firm in one spirit.***
- 2. The Church was to be serving side by side with one mind for the sake of the gospel.***
- 3. The Church was to be in no way intimidated by any opponent.***

***It takes a courageous church to resist infighting and to maintain our common purpose of serving Christ.***

## **6. OUR PRIVILEGE: SUFFERING v. 29-30**

Our **human nature** does not consider suffering a privilege.

Yet godly suffering has some strange benefits:

1. It takes our eyes off of earthly comforts
2. It weeds out superficial believers
3. It strengthens the faith of those who endure
4. It serves as an example to others who may follow us

We are in this fight together, so let's **MAKE THE BEST OF IT** TODAY and know that our TOMORROW is secure in Jesus!