**BAPTISTWAY PRESS—PHILIPPIANS: PURE JOY: A CHOICE TO REJOICE**

**Lesson Three —“To Live Is Christ” –Philippians 1:20-26—Galatians 2:20-219**

**CONTEXT OF THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER ONE**

1. **AUTHOR is Paul; again, this is this is one of Paul’s prison letters: Colossians, Ephesians, and Philemon.**
2. **PURPOSE:**  Mary Fairchild writes, “The joy of the[Christian experience](https://www.learnreligions.com/christianity-4684897) is the dominant theme running through the book of Philippians. The words "joy" and "rejoice" are used 16 times in the [epistle](https://www.learnreligions.com/epistles-of-the-bible-700271). ***The***[***Apostle Paul***](https://www.learnreligions.com/all-about-apostle-paul-701056)***wrote the letter to express his gratitude and affection for the Philippian church, his strongest supporters in ministry. Scholars agree that Paul drafted the epistle during his two years of house arrest in Rome.***
3. **Book was written to around** ad 61-62, to Christians at Philippi and all believers everywhere.
4. ***Today’s Study Aim is to understand and the fact that nothing or no one can steal a person’s joy [YOUR joy] if they [YOU]possess the truth of Philippians 1:21 [39]. To see that there is nothing more important than realizing that as long as we know Jesus Christ live in us.***

**Quick Read: Paul was not afraid of life or death. He just wanted to magnify Christ and that brought to him great joy. [39]**

### **A1 EXCITED THAT CHRIST LIVES IN ME [GALATIANS 2:19-2]19**For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; **20**and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God,[[g](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+1%3A20-26%3B+Galatians+2&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-29085g)] who loved me and gave himself for me. **21**I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification[[h](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Philippians+1%3A20-26%3B+Galatians+2&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-29086h)] comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

### **B. EXPECTING GREATNESS [PHILIPPIANS 1:20]**  **20**It is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be put to shame in any way, but that by my speaking with all boldness, Christ will be exalted now as always in my body, whether by life or by death.

### **B1. ENDURING LIFE [PHILIPPIANS 1:21]21**For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.

### **B2. EXACTING SACRIFICE [PHILIPPIANS 1:22-26] 22**If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. **23**I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; **24**but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. **25**Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, **26**so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again

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