

Paul's Imprisonment

(Philippians 1:12-20)

Sunday 20th July 2025



Philippians 1:12-20, NIV

Paul's Chains Advance the Gospel

12 Now I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that what has happened to me has actually served to **advance the gospel**. 13 As a result, it has become clear throughout the whole palace guard and to everyone else that I am in chains for Christ. 14 And because of my chains, most of the brothers and sisters have become confident in the Lord and dare all the more to **proclaim the gospel** without fear.



Philippians 1:12-20, NIV

15 It is true that some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of goodwill. 16 The latter do so out of love, knowing that I am put here for the **defense of the gospel**. 17 The former preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing that they can stir up trouble for me while I am in chains. 18 But what does it matter? The important thing is that in every way, whether from false motives or true, **Christ is preached**. And because of this I rejoice.

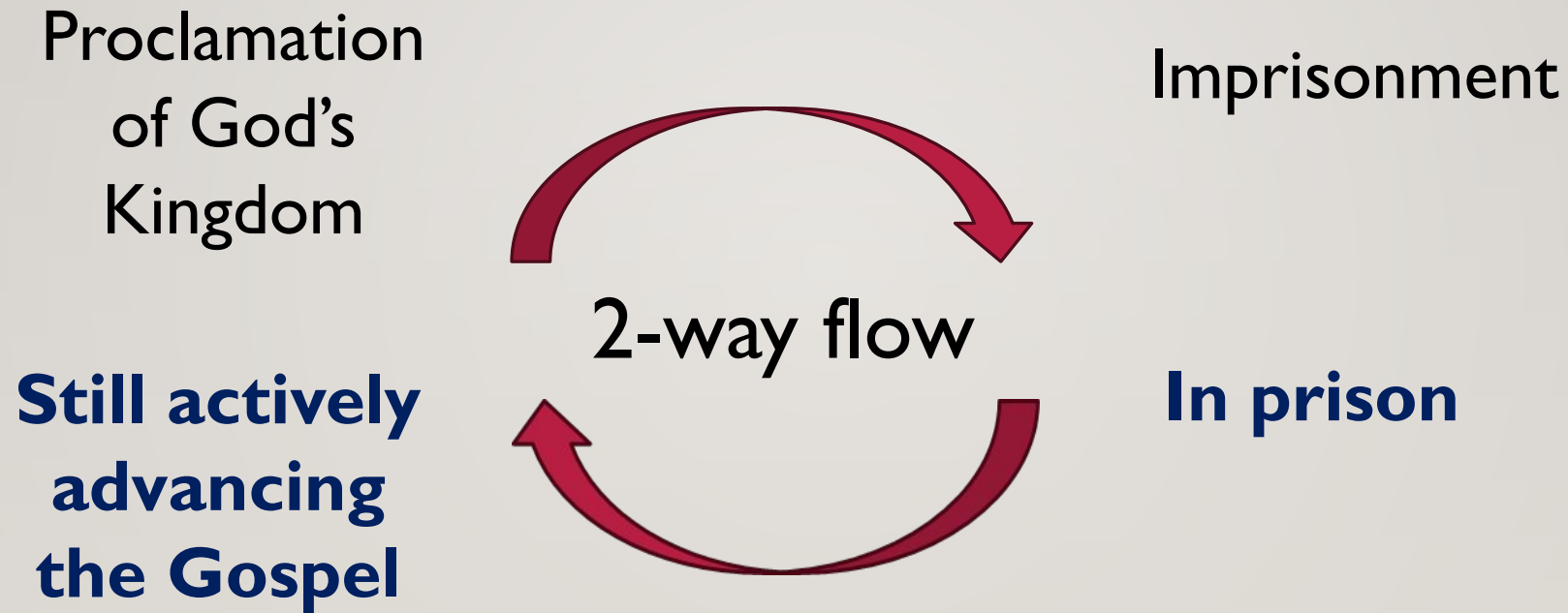


Philippians 1:12-20, NIV

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, 19 for I know that through your prayers and God's provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. 20 I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always **Christ will be exalted** in my body, whether by life or by death.



(A) Platform – to advance the Gospel (1:12-14)



Paul's house arrest in Rome

(A) Platform – to advance the Gospel (1:12-14)

- I. Imprisonment opened the way for preaching the gospel.
 - Within 9 verses 5 times being mentioned:
 - Advance the gospel (v.12)
 - Proclaim the gospel (v.14)
 - Defense of the gospel (v.16)
 - Christ is preached (v.18)
 - Christ will be exalted (v.20)
 - Four walls couldn't contain the power of the gospel

(A) Platform – to advance the Gospel (1:12-14)

2. Acknowledgement – Paul was in chains for Christ

- Time and again, Paul wrote, “I am in chains for Christ.”
- Paul repeatedly refers to himself...
 - Prisoner in the hands of the Romans
 - Being in chains for the sake of Christ (Colossians)
 - Prisoner of Jesus Christ (Philemon)
 - An ambassador in chains (Ephesians)

(A) Platform – to advance the Gospel (1:12-14)

3. Encouragement to the fellow believers in the Lord

- Proclaim the Gospel boldly
- Preach the word of God courageously
- Witness for Christ fearlessly

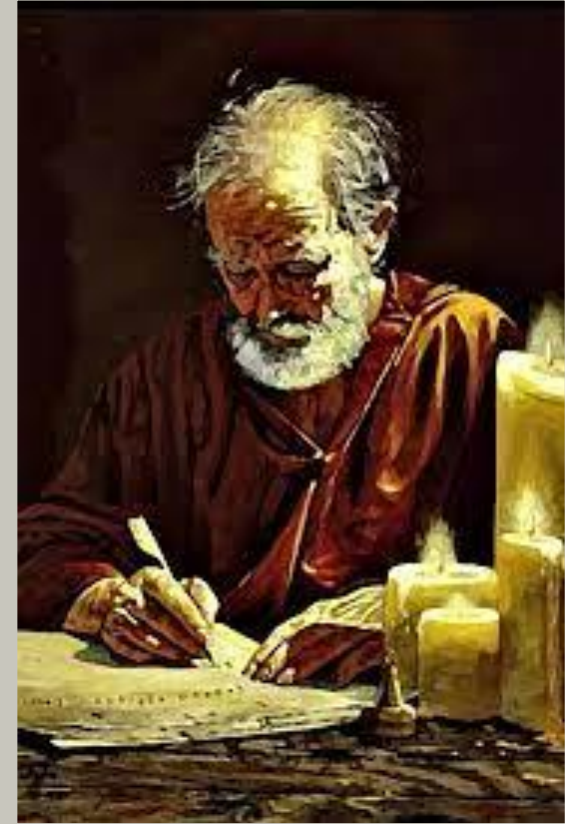
May be... just most probably – God of possibilities,
Miracles were to happen again – let it be...
About midnight most would be asleep already,
Yet Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God Almighty;
(Acts 16:25)

There was such a violent earthquake so suddenly – all being set free,
That all the prison doors flew open, chain came loose easily;
Unexpectedly gift of salvation for the jailer and his family,
As they believed in God – so filled with joy unspeakable full of glory!



God allowed this house arrest for two years to enable Paul to write the books of Ephesians, Philemon, Colossians and Philippians.

Such valuable treasures
Added into the Bible
A part of the New Testament
Called the 'Pauline Epistles'

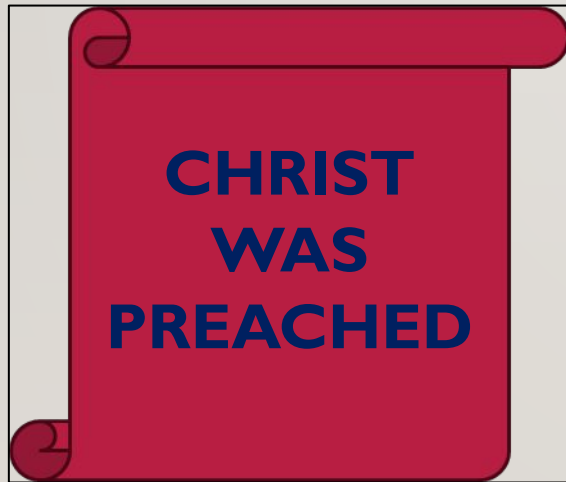


(B) Preached Christ – whatever motives (1:15-18)

Preach Christ	Group 1	Group 2
Motives	out of envy and rivalry	out of goodwill
Heart	not sincerely	act of love
Intention	stir up trouble for Paul	aware that Paul was in chain for the defense of the gospel
Teamwork	competitive	complementary

(B) Preached Christ – whatever motives (1:15-18)

The most important thing is that in every way, whether from false or true motives,



For the advancement of the Gospel,



(C) Prayer Support – Paul was sustained (1:19-20)

- Paul had two great supports:
 - * the support of prayers from his friends
 - * the support of the Holy Spirit
- Paul's conviction about his deliverance
- Paul's hope...
 - * In Christ he will have courage not to be ashamed of the gospel
 - * Through Christ his labor will be effective testimony for all to see
 - * For Christ's glory, whether he lives or he dies.

Paul's Imprisonment (1:12-20)

- (A) Platform – to advance the gospel (1:12-14)
- (B) Preached Christ – whatever motives (1:15-18)
- (C) Prayer Support – Paul was sustained (1:19-20)