

Phil 2:12-30 What Really Matters in the Day of Christ

Paul was appealing to them for unity -- he encouraged them to take on the mindset of Jesus

- Phil 2:5-8 Let this mind be in you...He **humbled** himself, became a **servant**, & **obedient** to death
- Phil 2:12-13 - work out your salvation, for God works in you to will and do his good pleasure

Phil 2:14 Do all things without grumbling or questioning, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish **in the midst** of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, **so that in the day of Christ** I may be proud that I did not **run** in vain or **labor** in vain.

- **How we live today IN THE MIDST of the world will affect our standing IN THE DAY OF CHRIST**
- **Paul would be proud** (1) they made it (2) he did not run or labor in vain
- There are only few things that last forever...one of these is people...RUN and LABOR there

3 individuals who embodied the mindset of Christ & dedicated their lives to making an eternal impact

Paul - Life poured out as a drink offering - and he was glad about it

Phil 2:16 (b) **so that in the day of Christ** I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain. 17 Even if I am to be **poured out as a drink offering** upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am **glad** and **rejoice** with you all. 18 Likewise you also should be **glad** and **rejoice** with me.

- His pride was that the outcome of his running and labor produced faithful disciples
- He was committed to this even if it means martyrdom → poured out as a drink offering
- Suffering is not seen as a loss - but as gladness and joy and complete surrender as a drink offering

Timothy - Self-Interest, The Interest of Others, or the Interest of Jesus Christ

19 I hope in the Lord Jesus to send Timothy to you soon, so that I too may be cheered by news of you. 20 For I have no one like him, who will be genuinely concerned for your welfare. 21 **For they all seek their own interests, not those of Jesus Christ**. 22 But you know Timothy's proven worth, how as a **son with a father he has served with me in the gospel**. 23 I hope therefore to send him just as soon as I see how it will go with me, 24 and I trust in the Lord that shortly I myself will come also

Epaphroditus - he nearly died for the work of Christ (see also 4:18)

25 I have thought it necessary to send to you **Epaphroditus my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, and your messenger and minister to my need**, 26 for he has been longing for you all and has been distressed because you heard that he was ill. 27 Indeed he was ill, near to death. But **God had mercy on him, and not only on him but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow**. 28 I am the more eager to send him, therefore, that you may rejoice at seeing him again, and that **I may be less anxious**. 29 So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and **honor such men**, 30 for **he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me**.

- **"Risking his life"** meaning to expose oneself to extreme danger) for the cause of Christ.
- **Paul instructs the Philippians to "honor such men" (Phil 2:29)**.
- Rom 16:3-4 ESV Greet Prisca and Aquila, my fellow workers in Christ Jesus, 4 who risked their necks for my life, to whom not only I give thanks but all the churches of the Gentiles give thanks as well.

These men living out the mindset of Christ can become repugnant to us who value self-preservation

- Joy at pouring out life out as drink offering "to spend & be spent" - life is **poured out for something**
- To be genuinely concerned about the welfare of others...seeking the **things important to Jesus**
- To risk your life for Christ or stay safe - **either road will cost you - where will you invest**