

**PHILIPPIANS (COUNT IT ALL JOY)  
PROGRAM 6 (#912091)  
WEEK 2 (#912319)  
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The following is an actual transcript of the PRECEPTS FOR LIFE Broadcast. For the purpose of filling transcript requests quickly, they have received only light editing. If you have questions concerning the material covered in this broadcast, Kay has published a number of books explaining the Scripture in depth. These books may be ordered by contacting the telephone number or address printed above.

**SERIES: Philippians (Count It All Joy)**

**TITLE: Program 6 – Context Is King!**

**MONDAY**

**OPEN**

If you were to sit in a doctors office, Beloved, and hear the doctor say the tests have come back and the news isn't good, really, "I'm so sorry to tell you, but you only have about a year to live," would it change the way you live? Not physically, but would it change the way you live spiritually? And if so, why? What difference does death make in the way you live?

**PART ONE**

Remember the question I asked, Beloved, at the opening of the program? Should the fact that you're going to die change the way that you live? Or should you live as if you were going to die at any moment? Well I want us to go to Philippians chapter 1. Remember we're walking through this book verse by verse so that you might discover for yourself what the Word of God has to say. And at this point in Paul's epistle he's going to discuss living and he's going to discuss dying. Why? Remember as we went through and we

marked every reference to the author, to Paul and Timothy, but it's really Paul, we saw that Paul was in prison and he could have been facing death. He could have gotten a death sentence because he had appealed to Caesar and he had ended up in Rome, and so it could have ended in a death sentence, and Paul knew that. But did it change the way that he lived? Well, as we saw in our last program, Paul was very intent on getting the gospel out for the furtherance of the gospel, the defense and the confirmation of the gospel. As a matter of fact, when you go through and you mark every reference to the gospel and then having observed the text, having seen this key repeated word the gospel, and then making a list of what you learn, you see several things about the gospel. First of all you see that in verse 7 that he is set in **"the defense and the confirmation of the gospel."** (Philippians 1:7) He's out to defend this truth. He is also out to make sure that it is a confirmed truth. In other words, that it is lived out, that it is seen. And then you come down to verse 12 and he says, **"...My circumstances have turned out to the furtherance of the gospel."** (Philippians 1:12) So it was all right for him to be in prison because his goal was still being achieved, the gospel was still going forward. And then we come to verse 16, and he says that he is **"...appointed..."**, again, **"...for the defense of the gospel."** (Philippians 1:16) He wants to make sure that it is a pure message. Well now, he's asking for prayer. And in verse 19 this is what he says. **"...I know that this shall turn out to my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ."** (Philippians 1:19) Now when you see **"...I know that this shall turn out..."**, you have to know what the **"this"** is. Well to know what the **"this"** is, you look at the context. When you're studying the Scripture and you're interpreting scripture to find out what does it mean, then you observe the text. You see what it says. And then you find out what does it mean? And one of the things that we teach you in your study guide is that you always look at context. Context, "con" with the "text." What goes before and what goes after? What is the setting of this

verse? What is the historical setting of the book? So context is king. And when I say its king, I mean this: it rules over interpretation. I hope that by now you're saying, "Hey, I want to know more about what you're saying because I've had a hunger within my heart to know God, to know Him more intimately, to know His Word. And I open it and I read it and I forget what I read." Well you're not alone, "Beloved." That's happened to many, and it's happened to many because many times we read without thinking. We read without observing. We read without stopping to discover what it means. And many times we read and we fail to apply. So I want to urge you to go to our website. That's [preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com), [preceptsforlife.com](http://preceptsforlife.com). We want to make sure that each one of you has the opportunity to study the Word of God without cost, so you can download this on your computer and you can study along with us, and you can learn how to grasp the truth of the Word of God. Well let's go back and find out what the **"this"** is. **"...I know that this shall turn out for my deliverance...."**(Philippians 1:19a) Now what is the "this?" The "this" is that people are preaching Christ, some with wrong motives and some with good motives. Go back to verse 18. **"What then? Only...in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice, Yes, and I will rejoice; for I know that this...,"** (Philippians 1:18) this proclamation of the gospel by those that have an evil intent. They just want to make it more miserable for Paul, and they're doing it out of pretense, and those who are intent on seeing that the gospel comes out. Well as you look at this he says, **"I know that this...,"** this proclamation of the gospel, **"...will turn out for my deliverance...."** How? Remember we talked about prayer at the beginning of this epistle and the importance of prayer, and how prayer can deliver us and right here we see this: **"...I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ."** (Philippians 1:19) In other words, it's two things that enables you and me to stand faithful. The first thing that he mentions here is prayer, us interceding

on behalf of others that they will stand faithful and that an open door would be given to them for the gospel, etc. And then the second thing is the **“...provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ.” (Philippians 1:19b)** And that means that what God has done is God has given you His Holy Spirit and in giving you His Holy Spirit He has put His Spirit within you. And so the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Jesus Christ. It’s the Spirit of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit and it’s the Spirit that enables you to do what you’re supposed to do. **“It’s not by might, it’s not by power, it’s by My Spirit says the Lord of hosts.” (Zechariah 4:6)** The Spirit is power, and so this enables us to live. Now watch what he says. He says, **“According to my earnest expectation and hope, that I shall not be put to shame in anything...,”** he says, **“but...with all boldness, Christ shall even now, as always, be exalted in my body....” (Philippians 1:20)** Now listen carefully, whether by life or by death. This is his earnest expectation. This is his hope. This is the driving passion of his life. It’s Jesus. That’s why the gospel is so on his heart. He wants people to know that there is redemption from hell, that there is salvation through the Lord Jesus Christ that you don’t have to be a slave to sin all your lives, but you can be redeemed, not with corruptible things, but with the precious blood of the Lamb of God, without spot and without blemish. He wants people to know that. He also is not only speaking the Word of God, but he wants everything about his life to exalt God to show the reality of Jesus Christ. You know, I’m in a wheelchair, because I’ve broken my foot and my husband just wants to help me and everything; well we were in the kitchen and every morning he makes a drink. And he puts in it all these fruits, and so he doesn’t put a lid on top of the blender, because there’s lots in there and nothing’s going to go anywhere. And so he mixes it up and has it every morning. Well I told him, I said I want a protein drink. And so I was getting it, and there were people in the house and I said honey I’ll do it because I’ve got to put the lid on it. And he just missed that and he wanted to help me so much that he turned it on

without the lid and it's all liquid, and I mean it was all over. At that point I had a choice. I had a choice whether to get mad. I had a choice to say, "Why didn't you listen to me?" Or I had a choice just to help him mop it up and thank him for trying to help me. I had that choice. Now the choice that I made was not according to my emotions, because according to my emotions I wanted to say to him, "Jack, why didn't you just wait?" I mean everything in my flesh wanted to do that. But I have the provision of the Spirit of Christ. And when I was sitting waiting to get in the car. I thought the fruit of the Spirit is love and joy and peace and gentleness, etc. etc. etc. And I have a choice to walk by the Spirit or I have a choice to walk by the flesh. And so we have choices to make. Now Paul's passion was to always make the choice, always make the choice to let Christ be exalted in his body whether by life or by death which was far more serious than getting a chocolate protein drink all over the kitchen, all over the counter, all over my husband's pants, all over my wheelchair. You know life and death is a far greater issue than that. What is Paul's desire and what is your desire, Beloved? We have to stop and think in any given situation: what do I want to do? What do I want to accomplish? Now Paul's pattern of life was Christ. Watch what he goes on to say: I want Christ to **"...be exalted in my body whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ but to die is gain."** (Philippians 1:20b-21) What is he saying? He's saying this: That if I get a death sentence, it doesn't matter how I'm going to live because I've already been living the way I want to live. And the way I want to live is I want to live for Christ. I want everything that I do to be exalting to Jesus Christ. To live is Christ; to die is simply gain. Why? Why is to die gain? Is he out of his head? We'll talk about it after the break.

## **PART TWO**

Welcome back, Beloved. We've gone from the gravity of getting a death sentence and hearing that you're only going to live for a year, to the blender

exploding and going all over. And yet both of those situations are part of life. We're all going to die. [It's appointed unto man once to die and after that the judgment.] (PARAPHRASE Hebrews 9:27) So we're all going to die. There's no man that has ever lived without dying except really two people, and that is Enoch who walked with God and was not, because God took him and that's Elijah who was caught up to heaven to meet God. And I believe that those both have a purpose, and I believe that we're going to see possibly those two characters in the last days reappearing. But it is appointed unto man once to die and after that the judgment. The judgment that we will receive depends on the way that we live, not just on the way that we die, but the way that we live. Remember we have seen that there is a judgment seat of Christ where Christians will stand and where their deeds will be judged. We've seen and I've told you that there is a great white throne of judgment that the lost people will stand at. And there they will be judged according to their deeds and there they will be cast into the lake of fire and their punishment will be according to the degree to their exposure. Now to go deeper into that you would have to study Revelation, but we're not going to go deeper into that now. But what I want to do is, I want to talk a little bit about living and I want to talk about dying. Now for Paul to live was Christ; to die was gain. Why was it gain? It was gain because he was going to see Jesus when he died. And if everything in his life was set on Jesus, then to be in the presence of Jesus would be even better than being on this earth and absent from Jesus. Let me take you back to 2 Corinthians, chapter 5. In 2 Corinthians, chapter 5, Paul is talking; he leads into it in chapter 4 and there are no chapter divisions, about not looking at the things which are seen because they're temporal, but looking at the things which are not seen because they are eternal. And then he talks in chapter 5, in verses 1 through 5 about the fact that someday we're going to put off this earthly tent and we're going to get a brand new body. We're going to have a heavenly tent so to speak, a heavenly covering, a heavenly body. And then he goes on to say

in verse 6: **“Therefore, being always of good courage, and knowing that while we are at home in this body we are absent from the Lord.” (2**

**Corinthians 5:6)** And so he says **“...for me to live is Christ....”**

**(Philippians 1:21)** I’m living for Him down here, but to die is gain because

I’m absent from the body and I’m going to be present with the Lord. Watch

what he says, **“...we walk by faith, not by sight.” (2 Corinthians 5:7)** We

know this because God has written it in His book. And we’re not walking

by sight because we haven’t died yet, but we’re living by the Word of God.

He says therefore **“we are of good courage, I say, and....,”** and I circled

and in my Bible, **“...prefer rather to be absent from the body and to be**

**at home with the Lord.” (2 Corinthians 5:8)** Did you hear what he said? I

prefer to be absent from the body and at home with the Lord. That’s why to

die is gain. Now if you get a death sentence, if you’re sitting in the doctor’s

office and he says you only have a year to live and all of a sudden you think,

I’ve only got 12 months to live. How am I going to live? Well Beloved, if to

live is Christ you’re going to continue to live the same way that you lived

before, because your passion, your goal, is that Christ be exalted in your

body whether by life or by death. So the death sentence is really, to a child

of God, not a terrible horrible death sentence. Because if you’re really living

for Christ and Christ consumes you and He is your all and all and you love

Him primarily above all others with all your heart and with all your soul and

with all your mind and all your strength, then when you get the news, Hey,

you’re going to be at home with the Lord, and so you just want to continue

living in such a way that Christ be exalted in your body. You say, but I love

life down here. I understand, and I love life down here too when it’s nice and

when it’s easy and when it’s without trials, it’s very, very pleasant. But

when all the trials come it is very, very hard. And Paul was in the midst of

trials. And yet those trials did not affect him. They did not change the way

he lived because for him **“...to live was Christ and to die [was] gain.”**

**(Philippians 1:21)** Now what’s going to happen to us when we die? Well I

want us to take a look at it, but it's going to take the next program, so you want to make sure that you do not miss the next program. All right, let's go on and see what Paul is saying in Philippians, chapter 1, verse 22. He says, **"But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I don't know which to choose."** In other words, I don't know which way to pray. He says, **"But I am hard-pressed from both directions, having the desire to depart and to be with Christ, for that is very much better."** (Philippians 1:22-23) He said I want to depart and I want to be with Christ because that is better. What happens to you when you die? The minute that your heart stops beating, the minute that your spirit or your soul leaves your body, you are absent from the body and you are present with the Lord. I mean you're immediately in His presence. And because you're immediately in His presence, but absent from that body, then that body is, is given a funeral of some sort. It's either cremated or it's buried and what happens? It lays in that tomb until there is a resurrection. So let's look very quickly at that resurrection. And I want us to go to 1 Thessalonians chapter 4. 1 Thessalonians chapter 4. And he says, and Paul is writing and he says, I'm going to show you a mystery. And a mystery is a truth that has been hidden until God chose for it to be revealed. And Paul had the privilege of revealing many mysteries. And this is what he says in verse 13: **"I do not want you to be uninformed, brethren, about those who fall asleep...."** Now when he's talking about a Christian he's talking about a Christian falling asleep, not a dead person. He says that **"those who fall asleep that you may not grieve as the rest who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so God will bring with Him those who have fallen asleep in Jesus."** (1 Thessalonians 4:13-14) I'm going to stop there and I want us to reflect on what we've heard. Because it's so important that you know where you're going to go when you die. If you do not know Christ, then you're going to die and you're not going to be absent from the body and present with the Lord, you're going to be absent from the body and



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you're going to be in hell. You don't want that to happen. I mean, if you get the death sentence from the doctor and you hear that you're going to die in a year and you don't know Jesus Christ, God has got you like this and He's saying listen to Me, listen to Me. You do not have to die. You do not have to perish. I gave Jesus to die on the cross for you. You can have forgiveness of sins. You can be assured that when you're absent from the body, you're present with the Lord. Listen to me and believe this good news of Jesus Christ and salvation through Him. And what he's done by this sentence of death is He's grabbed you by the collar because He's trying to get your attention, because He wants you to come to know Him. So all you have to do, Beloved, is say I believe, I believe Jesus, You are God, and You will run my life from now on. You're my Savior and I'm your child. You'll be saved then and you'll have life.