

*Philippians*



# WHEN JESUS IS TRULY FIRST

Aron Osborne  
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# Philippians 1:12-18

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# I. The Advance Of The Gospel

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“I want you to know, brothers,  
that what has happened to me  
has really served to advance the  
gospel, so that it has become  
known throughout the whole  
imperial guard and to all the rest  
that my imprisonment

~ Philippians 1:12-18

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is for Christ. And most of the brothers, having become confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but

~ Philippians 1:12-18

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others from good will. The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. What then?

~ Philippians 1:12-18

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Only that in every way, whether  
in pretense or in truth, Christ is  
proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.”

~ Philippians 1:12-18

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“And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will be faithful to bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.”

~ Philippians 1:6

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*Perspective is  
Transformed when  
Jesus is Truly First*

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# II. How Can The Gospel Of Jesus Christ Alter Our Perspective?

**1. In life's  
circumstances,  
especially the hard  
ones, look for 'Divine  
Alchemy'.**

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“I want you to know, brothers,  
that what has happened to me  
has really served to advance the  
gospel, so that it has become  
known throughout the whole  
imperial guard and to all the rest  
that my imprisonment is for

~ Philippians 1:12-14

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Christ. And most of the brothers,  
having become confident in the  
Lord by my imprisonment, are  
much more bold to speak the  
word without fear.”

~ Philippians 1:12-14

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“Five times I received at the hands of the Jews the forty lashes less one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. Three times I was shipwrecked; a night and a day I was adrift at sea; on frequent

~ 2 Corinthians 11:24-27

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journeys, in danger from rivers,  
danger from robbers, danger  
from my own people, danger  
from Gentiles, danger in the city,  
danger in the wilderness, danger  
at sea, danger from false  
brothers; in toil and

~ 2 Corinthians 11:24-27

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hardship, through many a  
sleepless night, in hunger and  
thirst, often without food, in cold  
and exposure.”

~ 2 Corinthians 11:24-27

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“My imagination hears the apostle’s silent prayer as a new soldier is chained to him – ‘Thank you, Lord. Here’s another one to tell about Jesus.’”

~ R. Kent Hughes  
*Philippians*, pg. 48

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“All the saints greet you,  
especially those of  
Caesar’s household.”

~ Philippians 4:22

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“At first you might have thought Paul’s imprisonment was the end of all, but God with his chemistry came in and turned it to the furtherance of the gospel...Now that is the Christian’s certainty.

~ Martyn Lloyd-Jones  
*The Life of Joy*, pgs. 80-81

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When, then, we find ourselves facing adversity, this trial or this tribulation in life, having first put ourselves right on the love of God, the next thing to ask is, I wonder what God is doing

~ Martyn Lloyd-Jones  
*The Life of Joy*, pgs. 80-81

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in this? What is his purpose? I wonder how God is going to use it? What is the set purpose of the Divine Chemist at the back of all this? I am now going to watch this amazing experiment,

~ Martyn Lloyd-Jones  
*The Life of Joy*, pgs. 80-81

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and I am going to see what the Divine Alchemist is going to work in this situation; God is going to make something out of this. And the moment you look at it like that, you have already

~ Martyn Lloyd-Jones  
*The Life of Joy*, pgs. 80-81

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conquered it, you have beaten  
the temptation down.”

~ Martyn Lloyd-Jones  
*The Life of Joy*, pgs. 80-81

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“As for you, you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good, to bring it about that many people should be kept alive, as they are today.”

~ Genesis 50:20

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“But he was pierced for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his wounds we are healed.”

~ Isaiah 53:5

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**2. We throw a Gospel party instead of a pity party.**

“Some indeed preach Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from good will. The latter do it out of love, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel. The former proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not

~ Philippians 1:15-18

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sincerely but thinking to afflict me in my imprisonment. What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice.”

~ Philippians 1:15-18

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“What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed, *and in that I rejoice.*”

~ Philippians 1:18

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“For the cause of Christ, Paul appears ready and willing to trade in things many of us hold sacred every day – namely, our sense of justice and security.”

~ Matt Chandler  
*To Live Is Christ*, pg. 33

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“Paul and the early Christians were not as immobilized by troubles as we often are. Paul’s view of life invited God to rip the prison door off meaningless suffering...the early Christian’s actions and reactions indicate

~ Ramon Presson

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that they fully understood and truly believed that God is good, life is not fair, and that and life are not the same things...It is a given that life will often be difficult, unfair, painful, and illogical. We can accept that

~ Ramon Presson

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reality and proceed accordingly toward meaning, *or* you can rail and rage against it, either in toxic anger and bitterness, bottomless grief, or immobilizing self-pity.”

~ Ramon Presson

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“It occurred to me just now, for those people who have been through difficult situations, and offended by others sins, the best way to forget their bitterness towards them, is to concentrate on Christ...In Christ all things are possible.”

~ Edward Radschweit

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