

SHINE WHERE YOU ARE
Philippians 1:12-18

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BACKDROP

- Paul is in a Roman prison under house arrest.
- Charge: preaching Christianity and spreading the good news of the gospel of Christ.
- Many would feel that the cost was too high.
- But Paul opted for a loftier and more noble perspective and chose to look at things a bit differently.

Paul is teaching us that many times we cannot control what happens to us, but we have power over how we respond to things that happen.

The problem is the interjection of the flesh.

- You know you do not deserve that kind of treatment!
- No one should be made to feel that way!
- We understand why you would go off and have absolutely nothing to do with that clown.

Paul's in His Chains Teaches Us . . .

We can shine anywhere!

1. We Can Turn Our Adversities into Positives

Ask yourself, “Lord, what is my purpose here, and how can you be glorified by my actions?”

... the things which happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel. Phil 1:12

2. Others Can Benefit from Our Trials & Triumphs

- They gain strength and confidence of their own
- They are made better when they see us stand firm and remain committed and faithful in face of hardship & trial
- *... and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident in my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear. Phil. 1:14*

3. Healthy Attitudes Are often Bridges over Troubled Waters

- *... and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice. Phil 1:18*
- Some derivative of joy appears 16 times in four short chapters in Philippians.
- Prevailing attitudes should be –
 - “I’m not going to let them steal my joy.”

AND

**WHEREVER THE LORD
DEEMS IT APPROPRIATE
FOR ME TO EXIST, I AM
GOING TO SHINE!!**

Lord's Invitation

- **Be added to the Lord's body**

Hear the gospel (**Romans 10:17**)

Believe (**Hebrews 11:6, Acts 15:7**)

Repent (**Acts 2:38**)

Confess (**Matthew 10:32; Romans 10:10**)

Be baptized for the remission of sin (**Acts 2:38**) or

Invitation cont'd

- **Be reconciled unto the Lord (I John 1:8-9); or**
- **Desire prayer (James 5:16).**