

MAGNIFY CHRIST.

7/19/2026 AM

INTRO.:

A. Read text: **Phil. 1:15-24.**

B. Regarding the text:

1. What does it mean to have Christ magnified in our bodies?
 - 1) MAGNIFIED = to enlarge; clearly seen; to make known.
 - 2) **Act 19:17** "And this was known to all the Jews and Greeks also dwelling at Ephesus; and fear fell on them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was magnified."
 - 3) Paul and others in the First Century magnified Christ at all costs.
2. Question: Do I magnify Christ in my life? How do I do that? What does it mean?
3. We will note Paul's attitude about his life and work for Christ.

DISCUSSION: IN THIS LESSON WE OBSERVE...

I. VS. 20 "MY EARNEST EXPECTATION AND MY HOPE."

A. "Ernest expectation" is one word in the Greek.

1. Meaning "intense anticipation."
2. **Rom 8:19** "For the earnest expectation of the creature waiteth for the manifestation of the sons of God."
 - 1) The earnest expectation is an intense anticipation.
 - 2) Why do we have an earnest expectation?
 - a. God will cause every promise to come true!
 - b. **1 Thess. 5:24; Titus 1:2.**
 - 3) The creature: mankind.
 - 4) Waits: The full development (**Rom. 8:21**).
 - a. **1 Thess. 5:24** "Faithful is he that calleth you, who also will do it."
 - b. **Phil. 1:6** "Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:"
3. Paul said he had complete confidence in the Lord (**2 Tim. 1:12; 4:6-8**).

B. **Phil. 1:20** He was convinced that God would be magnified through his effort.

1. God is glorified by those who endure and overcome trials (**1 Pet. 1:6-7**).
2. God is magnified by the lives we live (**Matt. 5:16**).
3. Paul wants Christ to be glorified through the life he now lives and through the death he may face at any time.

II. VS. 21 "FOR TO ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST, AND TO DIE IS GAIN."

A. What it would mean if Paul continued on this earth.

1. Christ is his priority in life.
2. Paul said his life centered on Jesus (**Gal. 2:20**).
 - 1) If Paul continued to live Christ would live through him.
 - 2) HOW? By magnifying Christ as he lived.

B. **Vs. 21-22** What it would mean if he died in his work for God.

1. To die is gain!
 - 1) When Paul died or when any faithful Christian dies what happens?
 - 2) **1 Cor. 15:58; Rev. 2:10; Mar 13:13** "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that shall endure unto the end, the same shall be saved."
2. **Vs. 22** Paul says he could not decide which he would choose (to die or live).
 - 1) Most would say... "Let me go on to be with the faithful. Let me see Paradise!"

2) BUT think for a moment...

- a. Are there those who you would like to talk with one more time?
- b. Do we have loved ones who are not yet right with God?

III. HOW DO WE REGARD OUR LIVES TODAY?

A. Paul took his ministry seriously (Vs. 23-24).

1. Vs. 23 He says it is **better to be with Christ!** Who could argue against that?
2. Vs. 24 He also said to remain here is more needful for them. Maybe just **One more lesson; One more exhortation; One more invitation song!**

B. Magnifying Christ was important to Paul.

1. No matter what happened to him, Christ was to be magnified.
2. If he lives, or if dies he will be true to the Savior.

C. Magnifying Christ speaks to the world (Heb. 11:4).

IV. CONCLUSION:

A. Can you say you have the same attitude as Paul?

B. Paul desires to only magnify the Lord through his life, do we?