

The Gospel Unchained!
Philippians 1:12-18
September 17, 2023

Background: Acts 28:16

Update on Paul – Philippians 1:12-18

- His dilemma: Bound in chains! – 1:12-13
 - Concern: Is the gospel bound?
 - Paul is in prison – no longer free to share the good news!
 - What do we do now?
 - Reality: Advanced the Gospel!
 - “Advanced” – blaze a trail before an army!
 - Whole Praetorian Guard!
 - Because of Paul’s hardship & suffering, the gospel was reaching people previously unreachable!
- Good News and Bad News – 1:14-18
 - Good News: Most brothers are encouraged to speak
 - Boldly & without fear – Found their voice!
 - “More” – Exponentially!
 - Bad News: Preachers with bad motives
 - Note: The gospel message is intact!
 - These are not the ones mentioned in 3:1-4!
 - Envy, rivalry, selfish ambition
 - Compare with James 3:14-16
- The Result: Christ is being preached!
 - Christ Jesus/ Lord Jesus Christ/ Christ/ Jesus Christ – 18X in Ch. 1
 - Paul chooses to rejoice because Christ is preached!

Keys:

- God often works through our suffering and hardships.
- Paul’s priority was the gospel!
- The Gospel is not bound! (See Acts 28:30-31; 2 Timothy 2:9)

Application:

- Are we passionate for the gospel to advance?