

Review

1. Our earnest expectation and hope
2. To magnify Christ in life and in death

A dynamic principle of life

“For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.” (Phil 1:21)

1. Living for Christ

a. For

- i. The cause or reason with reference to Paul
- ii. It is making reference to the previous verse...to magnify Christ (Phil 1:20)
- iii. In seeking to magnify Christ, we would want to live for Christ

b. To live is Christ

- i. τὸ ζῆν... substantival use of the infinitive
- ii. Noun idea... The life
- iii. The verbal idea... To live

2. Dying for Christ

a. And

- i. Kai ...conjunction... coordinate as both are of equal importance
- ii. Both living and dying are of equal importance

b. To die is gain

- i. τὸ ἀποθανεῖν...substantival use of the infinitive
- ii. Noun idea...death is gain
- iii. Verbal idea... to die

A dynamic way of looking at life and death

1. Making a choice

a. Paul was undecided
“yet what I shall choose I cannot tell.” (Phil 1:22)

b. He was torn between both
“For I am hard-pressed between the two,” (Phil 1:23)

i. συνέχομαι... sunecho... to hold together, to compress

ii. Paul was compressed...hard-pressed between the two

2. A dynamic way of looking at life

a. In living on, Paul would be able to bear more fruit
“But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labour;” (Phil 1:22)

i. εἰ...there is the use of the 1st class condition of reality.

ii. τὸ ζῆν... is used here again

iii. His concept of life is that it must be fruitful.

b. He understood the need to remain for the sake of the brethren
“Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.” (Phil 1:24)

i. τὸ ἐπιμένειν...epimeno...to abide but with greater intensity...

ii. The concept of staying on was that it was more needful the sake of the brethren.

3. A dynamic way of looking at death

a. The desire to depart
τὴν ἐπιθυμίαν ἔχων εἰς τὸ ἀναλῦσαι (Phil 1:23)
“having a desire to depart and be with Christ,”

i. ἐπιθυμίαν...epithumia...longing, desire

ii. Paul expressed his desire

iii. analuo...to loose up... aorist active infinitive

iv. This means to loose up on life and to depart up to heaven

b. To be with Christ
“And to be with Christ, which is far better” (Phil 1:23)

i. His purpose to depart is to be with Christ

ii. He saw it as a better choice to be with Christ in heaven