

# **A FORGOTTEN VERSE:**

**"For to me to live is Christ,  
and to die is gain."  
(Philippians 1:21)**

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# **A FORGOTTEN VERSE:**

**Philippians 1:21**

- **Today we are going to look at a verse that we can sometimes forget about or not pay attention to.**

**"For to me to live is Christ,  
and to die is gain."  
(Philippians 1:21)**

## A FORGOTTEN VERSE: Philippians 1:21

- Let's read it in context & pray about it:

Yes, and I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance. I eagerly expect and hope that I will in no way be ashamed, but will have sufficient courage so that now as always Christ will be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labor for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! (Phil.1:19-22)

## **A FORGOTTEN VERSE: Philippians 1:21**

**"For to me to live is Christ,  
and to die is gain."  
(Philippians 1:21)**

- **Concerning this verse, please note:**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

**THERE ARE DECISIONS TO BE MADE**

- **Eternal life is through faith in Christ.**
- **One must decide to believe on Him.**
- **Paul left behind trying to earn his way to Heaven in favor of faith in Christ.**

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."

**THERE ARE DECISIONS TO BE MADE**

though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; 6as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless. (Philippians 3:4-6)

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE ARE DECISIONS TO BE MADE**

- **Paul had done all the "religious things". He was the best of the best. Yet.....**

**But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ 9and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. (Philippians 3:7-9)**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

**THERE ARE DECISIONS TO BE MADE**

- **Paul had decided to quit trying to “get to heaven” and “trust Christ through faith” in His death and resurrection at the cross!!**



**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE ARE DECISIONS TO BE MADE**

- **After deciding to trust Christ for their salvation, a Christian must then also decide to live for Christ. Christ is to become the center of "all the Christian is" and "all he hopes to be".**

**Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God—this is your spiritual act of worship. (Romans 12:1)**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

**THERE ARE DECISIONS TO BE MADE**

- **So we have seen there are decisions to be made. Now we will see:**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DEATH TO EXPERIENCE**

- Just as Jesus died to give life to multitudes upon multitudes, it is as we die to self and let Christ live through us that we will truly learn "to live is Christ."**

**I tell you the truth, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.  
(John 12:24) (see Luke 9:23-24)**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DEATH TO EXPERIENCE**

- **Let's look at one of the best verses in the Bible that we'll separate into two parts:**

**I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. (Galatians 2:20a)**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

**THERE IS DEVOTION TO PRACTICE**

- **We have seen there are decisions to be made and death to experience. Now let's see that:**

**THERE IS DEVOTION TO PRACTICE**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DEVOTION TO PRACTICE**

**The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20b)**

- **My life is to be devoted to Christ, "who loved me and gave himself for me."**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

**THERE IS DISCIPLINE INVOLVED**

- **We have seen there are decisions to be made, death to experience, and devotion to practice. Now let's see that:**

**THERE IS DISCIPLINE INVOLVED**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DISCIPLINE INVOLVED**

- **I can do many things because of years of practice, discipline and training.**
- **In order to say, "For to me to live is Christ," also takes the discipline of practice.**
- **I must be disciplined in prayer trusting the Holy Spirit to help me to pray.**
- **I must be disciplined in Bible reading and study trusting the Holy Spirit to help me.**



**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DISCIPLINE INVOLVED**

- I must be disciplined in Bible memorization and meditation trusting the Holy Spirit to help me.**
- I must be disciplined in walking in the Spirit trust the Holy Spirit with my life.**
- I must be disciplined in depending on the Holy Spirit's help.**

**I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5) (see Phil. 4:13)**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

**THERE IS DESTINY AHEAD**

- **We have seen there are decisions to be made, death to experience, devotion to practice, and discipline involved. Now let's see that:**

**THERE IS DESTINY AHEAD**

**"...and to die is gain."**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DESTINY AHEAD**

- **Let's look at Philippians 1:23-24:**

**I am torn between the two (between "dying" and "living here"). I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. (Philippians 1:23-24)**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DESTINY AHEAD**

- **Paul looked forward to departing and being with Christ. He had the hope of being with Him when his life was over.**
- **Yet, he had much to do for Jesus here.**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DESTINY AHEAD**

- **So we too have this “ambivalence” that Paul experienced.**
- **We long to leave this “sin-filled”, dying world and enter into the fullness of Christ’s glory!!!**
- **If your heart isn’t yearning to be with Christ, you need to check if you are saved.**
- **To know Christ – is to love Christ – and want to be with Him more than anybody or anything else.**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

## **THERE IS DESTINY AHEAD**

- **At the same time, we have a mission to build God's Kingdom!!!**
- **A mission to spread the God news in a world that doesn't want Christ would crucify Him again today.**

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and to die is gain."  
(Philippians 1:21)**

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## **THERE IS DESTINY AHEAD**

- **So:**

- **THERE ARE DECISIONS TO BE MADE**

- **THERE IS DEATH TO EXPERIENCE**

- **THERE IS DEVOTION TO PRACTICE**

- **THERE IS DISCIPLINE INVOLVED**

- **THERE IS DESTINY AHEAD**

- **LET'S PRAY:**

**"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain."**

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