

Chip off the old Rock

Philippians 1:26-30

26 so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.

Paul is an exemplary Christian. The bible doesn't emphasize our flaws or weaknesses but only our faith **Heb 11** Hall of faith--God's faithful servants, murderers, prostitutes, liars, etc. Paul had flaws, in fact he says of himself

Romans 7:14 We know that the Law is spiritual, but I am a creature of the flesh worldly, self-reliant--carnal & unspiritual, sold into slavery to sin & serving under its control. 15 For I do not understand my own actions I am baffled & bewildered by them. I do not practice what I want to do, but I am doing the very thing I hate & yielding to my human nature, my worldliness--my sinful capacity. 16 Now if I habitually do what I do not want to do, that means I agree with the Law, confessing that it is good morally excellent. 17 So now if that is the case, then it is no longer I who do it the disobedient thing which I despise, but the sin nature which lives in me. 18 For I know that nothing good lives in me, that is, in my flesh my human nature, my worldliness--my sinful capacity. For the willingness to do good is present in me, but the doing of good is not. 19 For the good that I want to do, I do not do, but I practice the very evil that I do not want. 20 But if I am doing the very thing I do not want to do, I am no longer the one doing it that is, it is not me that acts, but the sin nature which lives in me. 21 So I find it to be the law of my inner self, that evil is present in me, the one who wants to do good. 22 For I joyfully delight in the law of God in my inner self with my new nature, 23 but I see a different law and rule of action in the members of my body in its appetites and desires, waging war against the law of my mind and subduing me and making me a prisoner of the law of sin which is within my members. 24 Wretched and miserable man that I am! Who will rescue me and set me free from this body of death this corrupt, mortal existence? 25 Thanks be to God for my deliverance through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, on the one hand I myself with my mind serve the law of God, but on the other, with my flesh my human nature, my worldliness, my sinful capacity--I serve the law of sin. Amp

All this & still have *proud confidence abounding in Him in Christ Jesus*....all of us have things we are not proud of as believers & if a screen shot of all our failures in thought life & activities we'd likely leave the room. In spite of, Paul tells the church & believers how to walk so that Paul & others have the same *proud confidence in them in Christ Jesus* as they have in Paul.

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27 Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ; so that whether I come and see you or remain absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel;

Worthy Conduct – we're to live as citizens of heaven, as child representing our heavenly Father. Fellow-citizens who are careful in their Manner of life, what others see. What is worthy & matches what we are, -Christians. Living life for what & who we represent. **Rob...Don problem public or private for leader--25% increase; 100K deaths alcohol related**

Standing firm – not wavering, vacillating but persevering, not a poser but a real Christian—poser **surfer**, poser **stolen valor**

One spirit-one mind-striving together When come from homes w/ adults who couldn't & wouldn't hold it together & deal w/ differences, disagreements—split & make kids suffer for adults selfishness it will either make you like them or drive you the other way—for peace, harmony whatever it takes. Only in Christ by Holy Spirit, **otherwise selfish like them.**

One in unity harmony w/ one another... ***Ps 133:1 Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to dwell together in unity!***

Proverbs 6:16 There are six things which the LORD hates, Yes, seven which are an abomination to Him: 17 Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, 18 A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, 19 A false witness who utters lies, And one who spreads strife among brothers.

Pr 15:18 A WRATHFUL/hot-tempered man stirs up strife, But the slow to anger pacifies contention.

Pr 16:28 A perverse man spreads strife, And a slanderer separates intimate friends.

Pr 28:25 An arrogant/proud man stirs up strife, But he who trusts in the LORD will prosper.

Posers ***1Jn 2:19 They went out from us, but they were not really of us; for if they had been of us, they would have remained with us; but they went out, in order that it might be shown that they all are not of us.***

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For gospels sake--It's *good news* not bad news...bad news churches aberrant teaching...talk down on those not like them...tell you how they been hurt by others, a bad news club. So they separate themselves.

Good news is *healing news* our life w/ God & others. Maybe grew up in a bad news home, fighting, criticizing, swearing, shouting, denigrating... That's not the church & not where God lives. Would he be welcome in your home, in mine, in the church, in our church. Can we say *our proud confidence—for the faith of the gospel? Is who we are?*

One spirit, heart to heart, *one mind*..*taking every thought captive to obedience of Christ*....if issue w/ bro/sis leave gift at altar & go get things right--but if they refuse to....then pray and leave them to God....He's got a way of getting their attention.

Striving together—*takes effort*, to wrestle w/ issues, join in labor because a shared struggle for a good cause, the good news, Jesus Christ died on cross for our sins, buried, three days later rose. If you won't strife for things of God what will you strive for?

28 in no way alarmed by your opponents—which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that too, from God.

No way alarmed—because confident in truth of gospel, stake your life on it—not being alarmed-frightened puts antagonist of gospel on alert—are they willing to die for what they believe? You are for gospel....*living hope because Christ raised from dead*...Theirs is a dead uncertainty, a fading wish. To die for a lie is height/epitome of arrogance and pride.

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To die w/o Christ out of neglect, ignorance, pride—is destruction for them...body in grave soul/spirit outer darkness until resurrection then Great white throne judgment and lake of fire forever Rev 20...

Salvation for us *'Because I live you too shall live also Jn 14:19...absent body present w/ Lord. Paul prefers to be home w/ Lord...:23*. We make a very weak god...a very ignorant god...a very foolish god & if you think there is no God who is creator & savior who died for your sins rose from the dead and will judge the living the dead you're a fool.

Time to give up the phony god status in your own mind & give into the true God who created you, loves you and died for your sins & only He can bring you to Heaven to live w/ Him eternally.

29 For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, 30 experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear to be in me.

God Himself grants the privilege for us to believe...by His will we are in Christ....He chose you not you Him....*We love because He first loved us 1Jn 4:19*....He initiates we respond.

For Christ sake that we don't take credit—we are so prone to glory in what we do, but believers do it for Christ's sake--giving all glory to God & Jesus Christ our Lord.....*whatever you do, do all things to the glory of God 1Cor 10:31*

Suffer as Christians same as Paul....6 million martyrs in first 300 years of church history. Barrett & Todd Johnson published a list of more than 600 situations of martyrdom over the course of history, estimating that **more than 70 million** Christians had been martyred in the last 2000 yrs more than half of them were killed in the 20th C under fascist & communist regimes.

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As Paul was afflicted, so believers will to...don't think it a strange...

1Pet 4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal among you, which comes upon you for your testing, as though some strange thing were happening to you; 13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing; so that also at the revelation of His glory, you may rejoice with exultation. 14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

Poem of Irish Christian who served the poor of Belfast & the abused of India. [Amy Carmichael](#)

Hast thou no scar?

No hidden scar on foot, or side, or hand?
I hear thee sung as mighty in the land,
I hear them hail thy bright ascendant star,
Hast thou no scar?

Hast thou no wound?

Yet I was wounded by the archers, spent,
Leaned Me against a tree to die, and rent
by ravening beasts that compassed Me, I swooned:
Hast thou no wound?

No wound, no scar?

Yet as the Master shall the servant be,
And, pierced are the feet that follow Me;
But thine are whole: can he have followed far
Who has no wound nor scar?

So as a chip off the old Rock...upon this rock of Peters confession '**Thou are the Christ the Son of the Living God**' Jesus will build His church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it or prevail against you.....