

I. Paul is full of joy (v. 18b-19)

A. He is joyful because his friends are praying

“And pray for us too, that God may open a door for our message so that we may proclaim the mystery of Christ.” (Colossians 4:3)

B. He is joyful because Jesus is helping

“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever.” (John 14:16)

C. He is joyful because he looks forward to his deliverance

II. Paul is full of hope (v. 20)

A. He is hopeful of never being ashamed

B. He is hopeful of always having enough courage

C. He is hopeful of always exalting Christ

III. Paul is full of life (v. 21)

A. Paul’s life focus is Christ

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

B. Paul sees his future death as a gain

“Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.” (Revelation 21:3-4)

IV. Paul is full of purpose (v. 22-26)

A. Paul eagerly desires to go to heaven

“I consider that our present sufferings are not worth comparing with the glory that will be revealed in us.” (Romans 8:18)

B. Paul is committed to continued ministry on earth

“But even if I am being poured out like a drink offering on the sacrifice and service coming from your faith, I am glad and rejoice with all of you.” (Philippians 2:17)

V. Paul is full of encouragement (v. 27-30)

A. Paul encourages them to live worthy of the gospel

“Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.” (1 Peter 2:12)

B. Paul encourages them to be unified in the gospel

“Make every effort to keep the unity of the Spirit through the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:13)

C. Paul encourages them to stand firm against opposition

“Finally, be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God so that you can take your stand against the devil’s schemes.” (Ephesians 6:10-11)

D. Paul encourages them to remember their salvation