

Phil 1:12-30 The Roller Coaster of Life



SOME SAY:

Life is like a *Shower*:
1st **hot**— then **cold**

Be like *Moss*: Grow
in cracks of the dirt.

Is like a *flute*: Many
holes & emptiness
some magical beauty.

I SAY: Life's like a *Roller Coaster*: starts slow, gets
really fast. Even faster, up-down, round & round,
finally slows. It's breathless & Very Memorable!

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Phil 1:12 Now I want you to know, brethren, that **my circumstances** have turned out for **the greater progress of the gospel...**



v13 So that my imprisonment in the cause of Christ...

(Eph 6:20) Ambassador in chains

Has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard (Nero's Imperial Guard) and to everyone else. (Phil 4:22)

Acts 28:15 A soldier guarded him.

What negative things happened to you, but had an ultimately positive result? (Rom 8:28)

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I **Say** what
some will
not.

I **Do** what
others
will not.

I **Am** who
others
are not.

I **Am** the
roar of
Truth.

Phil 1:14 “And most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have **far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.**”

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Phil 1:15 “Some, to be sure, are preaching Christ even from *envy and rivalry...*” NIV

Phil 1:17 [*Enemies*] preach Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, *supposing that they can stir up trouble* for me while I am in chains. NIV



All have enemies: USA, Stockholm, London, Berlin.

Paul's enemies included Jewish-Convert teachers.
(2 Cor 10:10 Contemptible; 11:13-15 Deceitful)

Expect both ups & downs— it's Life. (Eccles 7:14)

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I REJOICE

v18 In every way, in Pretense or Truth
—that *Christ is proclaimed.*

We all
have *Allies*
(Rom 16:3-4)

We all
have *Enemies*
(Lk 6:26)

v19 For I know that this shall turn out for my
deliverance through your *prayers* and the
provision of the Spirit of Jesus Christ..

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Phil 1:20 *Christ shall even now*, as always, be *exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.*

Phil 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ, **and to die is gain.**

Paul's aim was not recognition, education, wealth, or pleasure. The single purpose of his soul was to glorify the Lord Jesus. *(Read Phil 3:8, 10 -11)*

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Paul arrested & executed in Rome
2 Tim 1:17; 4:6-7

Paul wintered in **Nicopolis** Tit 3:12
Life & Epistles p. 764

Paul to Macedonia (1Tim 1:3)

Cloak in **Troas**
2 Tim 4:13

Tim left in **Ephesus** 1 Tim 1:3

Trophimus in **Miletus** sick.
2 Tim 4:20^b

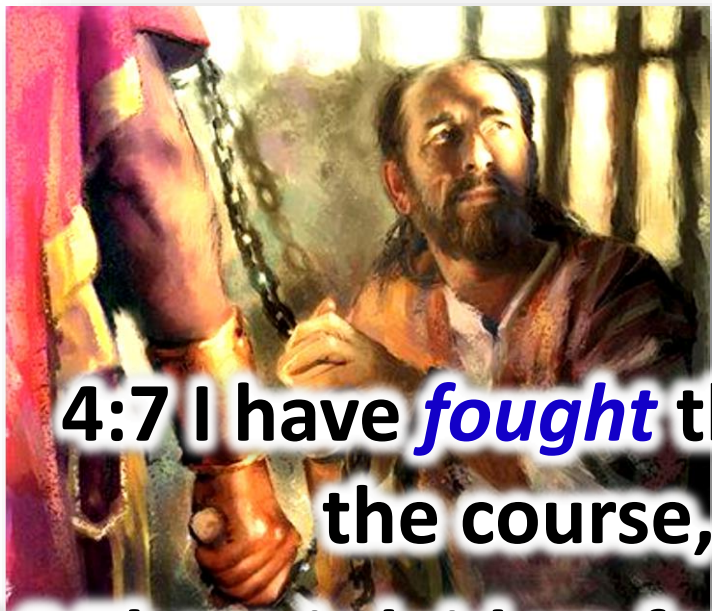
Paul left Erastus in **Corinth**
2 Tim 4:20^a

Titus was left in **Crete** Titus 1:5

Phil 1:22 - 26

If I am to live on in the flesh... **fruitful labor for me**
v25 Convinced... v26 I'm coming to you again.

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2 Tim 4:6 *I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure has come.*

4:7 I have *fought* the good fight, I have *finished* the course, I have *kept* the faith.

4:8 There is laid up for me *The Crown* & not me only

4:9 Make every effort to come to me *soon*.

4:10 Pick up *Mark* & bring him with you, he is useful

4:18 The Lord will deliver me from every evil deed.. and will bring me *safely* to His *heavenly kingdom*.

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What will you do with your Roller Coaster?

*The apostle described himself as “**Paul the aged**” (Philem 1:9) who Chrysostom supposes to have been age 63 in his first Roman imprisonment **5 yrs earlier.** He’s now **68.***

Read Edersheim: Life & Epistles of Saint Paul p782-783