

THE DEMISE OF THE MARTYR COMPLEX

SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 1:12-13

INTRODUCTION

TREMENDOUS CONFIDENCE COMES WITH THE REALIZATION THAT THE ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT HAVE SEEMED TO CONTROL PORTIONS OF OUR LIVES HAVE SERVED THE PURPOSE OF PRODUCING A BENEFIT TO THOSE WE HAVE ENCOUNTERED DURING OUR TRIAL.

I. THE CIRCUMSTANCES

PHILIPPIANS 1:12A NIV NOW I WANT YOU TO KNOW, BROTHERS, THAT WHAT HAS HAPPENED TO ME....

2 CORINTHIANS 11:24-25 FIVE TIMES I RECEIVED FROM THE JEWS FORTY LASHES MINUS ONE. THREE TIMES I WAS BEATEN WITH RODS, ONCE I WAS STONED, THREE TIMES I WAS SHIPWRECKED, I SPENT A NIGHT AND A DAY IN THE OPEN SEA.

- A. EVERYONE FACES ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES
- B. SATAN DEALS IN ADVERSE CIRCUMSTANCES
- C. GOD IS THE MASTER OF CIRCUMSTANCES

II. THE PURPOSE

PHILIPPIANS 1:12B NIV ...HAS REALLY SERVED....

- A. THE PLACE OF SERVICE DURING ADVERSITY
 - 1. GIVES OUR LIFE AN IMMEDIATE PURPOSE
 - 2. INCREASES OUR OWN SELF WORTH
 - 3. PRODUCES IMMEDIATE BENEFIT FROM OUR LIFE
- B. THE SECRET OF SURVIVAL IN DIFFICULT CIRCUMSTANCES IS SERVING
 - 1. FINDING A PLACE TO HELP OTHERS
 - 2. RESISTING THE URGE TO BE SERVED

- 3. NOT WALLOWING IN A POOL OF SELF PITY

III. THE BENEFIT

PHILIPPIANS 1:12C NIV ...TO ADVANCE THE GOSPEL.

2 TIMOTHY 4:7 NIV I HAVE FOUGHT THE GOOD FIGHT, I HAVE FINISHED THE RACE, I HAVE KEPT THE FAITH.

- A. A WILLINGNESS TO SERVE WILL BENEFIT THE GOSPEL
- B. A WILLINGNESS TO SERVE WILL PRODUCE FAITHFULNESS
- C. A WILLINGNESS TO SERVE WILL INFLUENCE OTHERS