

“THE DAY OF CHRIST”

INTRODUCTION

- I. The end of the world is often referred to as “the day of the Lord”, but in the book of Philippians it is referred to three times as “the day of Christ.” Phil.1:6,10; 2:16
 - A. The scripture in general tell us several things that will occur in that day—the day of all days.
 1. 1st, the resurrection of the dead will take place. Jn.5:28f
 2. 2nd, all material things will be destroyed. 2Pe.3:10
 3. 3rd, the judgment will take place. Mt.25:31,32
 - a. Christ will be the judge of all. Ac.17:30,31
 - b. The word of God will be the basis for His judgment. Jn.12:48
 - B. Now, let's look at the references to “the day of Christ” in the book of Philippians, as they relate to **anticipation** of that day for believers.
 1. All three passages suggest that it is yet future.
 2. All three passages suggest a positive attitude in living in view of that day
- II. Now let's consider the thoughts built around these three passages.

DISCUSSION

I. 1st, let's examine Phil. 1:6. (Read)

- A. This is basically a prayer of “faithfulness.”
 1. Paul expressed “confidence” in God for 2 actions.
 - a. 1st, a good work was **begun** in Philippians when they obeyed God.
 - b. 2nd, a good work will be **performed** as they continue in that work.
 2. The fact of death prior to “the day of Christ” will not make void God's efforts, for the souls of the righteous are being preserved till Christ comes again. 2Ti.4:18; Phil.1:23,24 (comment)
- B. God requires faithfulness **before** preservation. Mt.6:33; 1Cor.2:2; 15:58; Ac. 14:22; 2Pe.1:10,11

II. 2nd, let's examine Phil. 1:10. (Read)

- A. This verse is a part of Paul's **prayer** for the saints, that they might abound in in love and excellence and sincerity and without offense **till** Christ comes.
 1. If we are faithful **till** “the day of Christ”, we will then be secure in God's eternal fellowship, where only righteousness exists, with no temptation to sin being present. Jn.10:27,28
 2. There is **value** in faithfulness, or else Paul would not have prayed for it.
- B. The **reward** for faithfulness and right living is well worth the effort. 1Co.9: 24-27; Js.1:12; 1Pe.5:4

III. 3Rd, let's examine Phil. 2:16. (Read)

- A. The **basis** for the positive attitude of this text is the word of God.
 1. It's here called the word of “life” as it is a message of life or salvation. Jn.10:10; 6:23; Ro.1:16,17
 2. We must hold on **to** and hold **forth** God's word, that it may give light to those in darkness. Phil.1;13, 16A; cf Mt.5:16
- B. The **results** of holding forth the are 2-fold.
 1. 1st, Paul wanted to rejoice in the day of Christ because of faithfulness he had taught. Phil.2:16B

2. 2nd, Paul did not want his efforts to be in vain by their failure to keep themselves saved. v.16B; cf 1Co.3:11-15 (comment)

CONCLUSION

- I. Are you ready for “the day of Christ?”
 - A. We begin by putting **on** Christ in faith, repentance and baptism. Gal.3:27
 - B. We continue in being faithful till the end of life or till “the day of Christ.”
- II. If you are not yet a Christian, or have not continued faithful to God, you are urged to respond to heaven's invitation while we stand to sing the song selected.