

**"MORE FOR CHRIST"**  
**PHILIPPIANS 1:8-24**

**INTRO:** The desire for each child of God should be **TO DO MORE FOR CHRIST** as we grow and mature spiritually. **DOING MORE FOR CHRIST** does not necessarily mean **ACTIVITY** (though it can have that meaning). More significantly, the expression **MORE FOR CHRIST** involves **MAINTAINING A LIFE THAT IS MORE COMMITTED TO ALL THAT CHRIST IS AND EXPECTS FROM US**. Such was the **APOSTLE PAUL'S DESIRE**, which is a great example for us to follow. Among other places in scripture Paul's desire to do **MORE FOR CHRIST** is seen in our text for today, which we shall observe in this sermon.

**PERSONAL PREPARATION FOR THIS SERMON**

***(As expressed in the hymn: "MORE ABOUT JESUS")***

*More about Jesus would I know, More of His Grace to Others Show  
More of His saving fullness see, More of His love who died for me.*

*More about Jesus in His Word, Holding Communion with the Lord  
Hearing His voice in every line, Making each faithful saying mine*

*More, More about Jesus. More, More about Jesus  
More of His saving fullness see. More of His love who died for me.*

**I. MORE FOR CHRIST AS OBSERVED IN PAUL'S CONVERSION TO CHRIST**

A. Paul was Converted to Christ on the Road to Damascus – Acts 9:1-6

-Paul was on his way to Damascus to persecute Christians when he had a **DIRECT ENCOUNTER WITH CHRIST**.

B. Paul was Charged by Christ for His Ministry in Arabia – Galatians 1:10-17

-Paul made it very clear that what he learned and taught **DID NOT** originate with himself or another person, but rather **from the LORD JESUS CHRIST DIRECTLY**. **This is why PAUL WAS SO FIRM WITH SOLID CONVICTION IN HIS TEACHING**.

**OBSERVATION:** **FROM THE TIME OF PAUL'S CONVERSION, HE WANTED "MORE FOR CHRIST."**

**II. MORE FOR CHRIST AS OBSERVED IN PAUL'S COMMITMENT TO CHRIST**

**NOTE:** Verse 20 of our text indicates that Paul's **FULL COMMITMENT** was to **MAGNIFY CHRIST IN ALL THINGS**.

**NOTE:** The word "MAGNIFY" means **"TO MAKE GREAT, TO ENLARGE, TO SHOW GREAT**. Paul was **COMMITTED** to **REVEAL THE GREATNESS OF CHRIST** in all he did.

**NOTE:** Paul's expression in verse 20, **'MY EARNEST EXPECTATION AND HOPE'** is illustrated by one **"STRETCHING OUT HIS NECK TO SEE WHAT IS COMING."**

A. Paul wanted to **MAGNIFY** Christ Boldly without Shame

B. Paul wanted to **MAGNIFY** Christ in his Body without Compromise

C. Paul wanted to **MAGNIFY** Christ in his Life without Distraction

D. Paul wanted to **MAGNIFY** Christ in his Death without Hesitation

**OBSERVATION:** **IN ALL PAUL DID, HE WANTED "MORE FOR CHRIST."**

**III. MORE FOR CHRIST AS OBSERVED IN PAUL'S CONFIDENCE IN CHRIST**

**NOTE:** Many times, in focusing on verse 21 we emphasize the last phrase, **"TO DIE IS GAIN."** But the first phrase of the verse is **very significant: "FOR ME TO LIVE IS CHRIST."**

**NOTE:** The literal Greek translation: **"FOR TO ME TO LIVE CHRIST, AND TO DIE GAIN"**

A. In Paul's Life Christ was His EVERYTHING

1. His Source for Life – His Physical Life
2. His Savior for Life – His Spiritual Life
3. His Strength for Life – His Ultimate Strength
4. His Scope for Life – His Complete Focus
5. His Sustainer for Life – His Anchor in Life

B. In Paul's Life Christ was His ETERNAL REWARD

Cp. Philippians 3:14

**OBSERVATION:** IN ALL PAUL FACED, HE EXPERIENCED "MORE FOR CHRIST."

### **LESSONS AND APPLICATION**

- 1) The Foundation for desiring MORE FOR CHRIST is to KNOW CHRIST as personal Savior.
- 2) The Form for desiring MORE FOR CHRIST is be being in the Word of God
- 3) The Focus for desiring MORE FOR CHRIST is to exalt Him
- 4) The Finality for desiring MORE FOR CHRIST is to hear Him say, 'WELL DOINE, THOU GOOD AND FAITHFUL SERVANT.

### **DO YOU DESIRE MORE FOR CHRIST TODAY?**

- 1) If Not, why Not?
- 2) What is in your life right now, to keep you from wanting to do MORE FOR CHRIST?
- 3) Does Jesus Christ not mean enough to you to say "I WANT TO DO MORE FOR CHRIST?"