

# PHILIPPIANS Lesson 10

## Chapter 1, verses 12-14: The Benefits of Trials and Troubles

27 June 2022

**Vs 12** It is God's will that we understand why we have troubles and trials in our life. The trials in our life can result in some very good things. This is strictly limited to saved people (brethren). There is a benefit to be found in trials, but only to those who love God (Rom 8:28).

**"The things which happened..."** Sometimes things happen to us in life. They are not punishments, they are not planned, they are unpredictable (Job 5:6-7).

**"have fallen out RATHER..."** there are two options. First, the trouble could result in something very hurtful and bad in the long-term. But we would RATHER it work out to our benefit in the long term. If you love God, He will see that your trial works out to something positive.

**"...unto the furtherance of the gospel."** Sometimes our position in life doesn't give us many opportunities to speak to people about the Gospel.

- God can use a trial to put us in a better position to reach people (such as a hospital bed).
- Sometimes trouble can help us to lean upon the Lord and draw close to Him and become a better Christian.
- A trial may not have any physical benefits, but look for the spiritual benefits.

**Vs 13** Paul's trial brought him great notoriety. **"My bonds in Christ are manifest in all the palace, and in all other places."**

- Why was he in prison? For preaching about Jesus.
- People were talking about what happened to Jesus on the cross because Paul was in jail.

**Vs 14** Paul's imprisonment caused many of the brethren to become **"much more bold"** in their witness.

Our troubles ought to always result in the gospel going further than it would have without the trial.

- It provokes discussion: *"Why is that person suffering joyfully?"*
- Other Christians are reassured by your unwavering faith under the trial.