

New Hebron Missionary

Baptist Church

newhebronlr.org

Pastor Rodney E. Smith, Sr.

Bible Study

*“Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.”
(Ps. 119:105)*



Study of Philippians, “The Epistle of Joy” [pt.6]

{Philippians 1:21-26}

- v.21) *For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain.*
- v.22) *But if I live in the flesh, this is the fruit of my labor: yet what I shall choose I wot not.*
- v.23) *For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ; which is far better:*
- v.24) *Nevertheless to abide in the flesh is more needful for you.*
- v.25) *And having this confidence, I know that I shall abide and continue with you all for your furtherance and joy of faith;*
- v.26) *That your rejoicing may be more abundant in Jesus Christ for me by my coming to you again.*

v.21)

- “For...” – Paul explains why he is content to magnify the Lord by either his death or his life.
- “me...” – he also personalizes his commitment to God by saying that he can’t speak for others, only for himself.
- “to live is Christ...” – this phrase means that he wanted to live in union with Christ and that he had no thought of life apart from Christ. [Jn. 6:67-69]
- “to die is gain...” – Paul knew that death is not a defeat to the Christian but it is merely a graduation to glory! [2 Cor. 5:1; 1 Thess. 4:13-18]

v.22)

- But if I am to live on in the flesh, this will mean fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose. [NASB]
- Paul knew that the only reason to remain in this world was to bring souls to Christ and build up believers to do the same.

