



SERMON NOTES

First World Problems

What Really Matters?

Pastor Carl Toti - September 9-10, 2017

Philippians 1:20-26 (NKJV)

20 according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.

21 For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell. 23 For I am hard pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.

24 Nevertheless to remain in the flesh is more needful for you.

25 And being confident of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy of faith, 26 that your rejoicing for me may be more abundant in Jesus Christ by my coming to you again.

THE LONG VIEW

PAUL'S LONG VIEW: In times of trouble and testing, it is important that we take the long view of things. Paul possessed a future tense faith as well as a present tense faith.

JEREMIAH'S LONG VIEW: Jeremiah (31:6) obeyed the Lord. In faith he purchased land in his hometown.

ASAPH'S LONG VIEW: Psalm 73:1-5 (NLT)

1 Truly God is good to Israel, to those whose hearts are pure. 2 But as for me, I almost lost my footing. My feet were slipping, and I was almost gone. 3 For I envied the proud when I saw them prosper despite their wickedness. 4 They seem to live such painless lives; their bodies are so healthy and strong. 5 They don't have troubles like other people; they're not plagued with problems like everyone else.

Psalm 73:16-17 (NLT)

16 So I tried to understand why the wicked prosper. But what a difficult task it is! 17 Then I went into your sanctuary, O God, and I finally understood the destiny of the wicked.

Wicked=The violence (Pro. 21:7), vanity (Malachi 4:1) and vileness (see Leviticus chapters 18-20).

KICK AWAY

Psalm 91:13 (MSG)

13 You'll walk unharmed among lions and snakes, and kick young lions and serpents from the path.

Practice kicking away the non-essential stuff in your life.