

Scripture: 2 Timothy 4

Singing: 408:1-3 – 368:1-5 – 317:2-3 – 28:1-3 – 187:1-4

Intro: Lest we forget!

A. Do you consider yourself blessed with our inheritance? (2 Cor. 6:1)

1. How many did go and do go without access to God's Word to man?

2. How many will rise up in judgment against us? (Deut. 30:11-15)

B. The devil's greatest strategy is to *keep us from (believing) God's Words* (Gen. 3:1-3)

Paul the Martyr's Confession and Testimony of Faith

Three Lessons and exhortations from Paul the Martyr

A. HE IS READY TO GIVE HIS LIFE: vs. 6-8

1. He knows his death as martyr is sealed (see vs. 16)

a. yet he is *now ready*

b. he sees his end as a *departure* (Hebrews 13:7)

c. reflected on his life with two speaking images

● it was a good warfare

● it was a strenuous race

d. his sees his death as a day of victory (vs. 8)

2. What is Christ worth to you? Are we ready to face death like that?

B. He openly shared his needs: vs. 9-21

1. Paul wasn't shy to share his needs with his readers

2. He shared his social needs: vs. 9, 21

3. He shared his physical needs: vs. 13

4. He shared his spiritual needs: vs. 13b

5. He shared his deep emotional needs: vs. 14-16

C. HE IS CONFIDENT OF HIS LORD: vs. 17-18

1. Paul has faced a challenging foe: 17b, 16

a. as always, his foes have tried to shut his mouth

2. His experience of God's faithfulness is his comfort for tomorrow

a. for tomorrow would again bring the *fiercest challenge*

- not physical

- but spiritual

b. yet Paul's tomorrow is in God's hands as his yesterday (Phil. 1:6)

c. this reliance of God and others is their greatest strength

Close: It is our duty to consider the '*great*' in *God's kingdom*

A. Our greatest example in Christ Himself (Hebrews 12:1-4; 1 Peter 2:21-25)

B. But all Christ's followers are also worthy of our study (Heb. 13:7)