

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus,



Paul's Letter to the

Philippians

my witness, how
I yearn to see you, that I may share with you the joy of the Lord.
prayer that you may abound more and more, with knowledge and
all discernment, so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be
pure and blameless for the day of Christ, filled with the fruit of

“Making The Most Out of What We Have” —
(Philippians 1:12-26)



PHILIPPIANS

Joy No Matter What

Introduction To The Book of Philippians

● **Those IN CHRIST can HAVE TRUE JOY & PEACE:**

- Regardless of our past - (our sins or what others have done to us)
- Regardless of our circumstances - (Our physical or material condition or how others are mistreating us)

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

- We cannot control what happens to us, but we can control our response to what happens to us!
- If we focus on the “BAD” we will lose sight of the “GOOD!”
- God can use “BAD” things To accomplish “GOOD” things!



Philippians 1:12–26 (NKJV)

¹² But I want you to know, brethren, that the things *which happened* to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel, ¹³ so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ; ¹⁴ and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

Philippians 1:12–26 (NKJV)

¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: ¹⁶ The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains; ¹⁷ but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁸ What then? Only *that* in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.

Philippians 1:12–26 (NKJV)

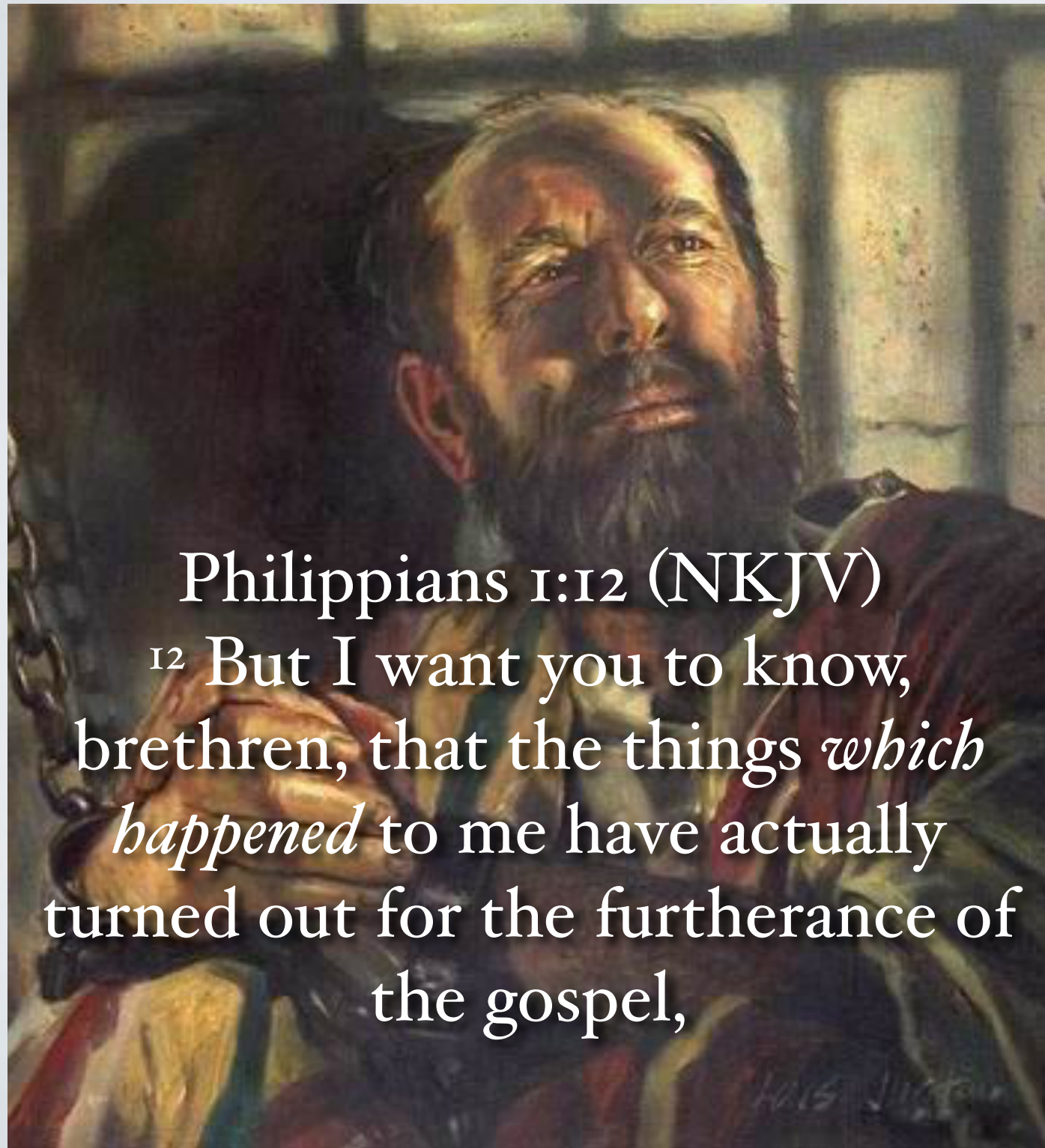
¹⁹ For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰ according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death. ²¹ For to me, to live *is* Christ, and to die *is* gain.

Philippians 1:12–26 (NKJV)

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.

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

BENEFITS OF HIS IMPRISONMENT - (12-18)



Philippians 1:12 (NKJV)

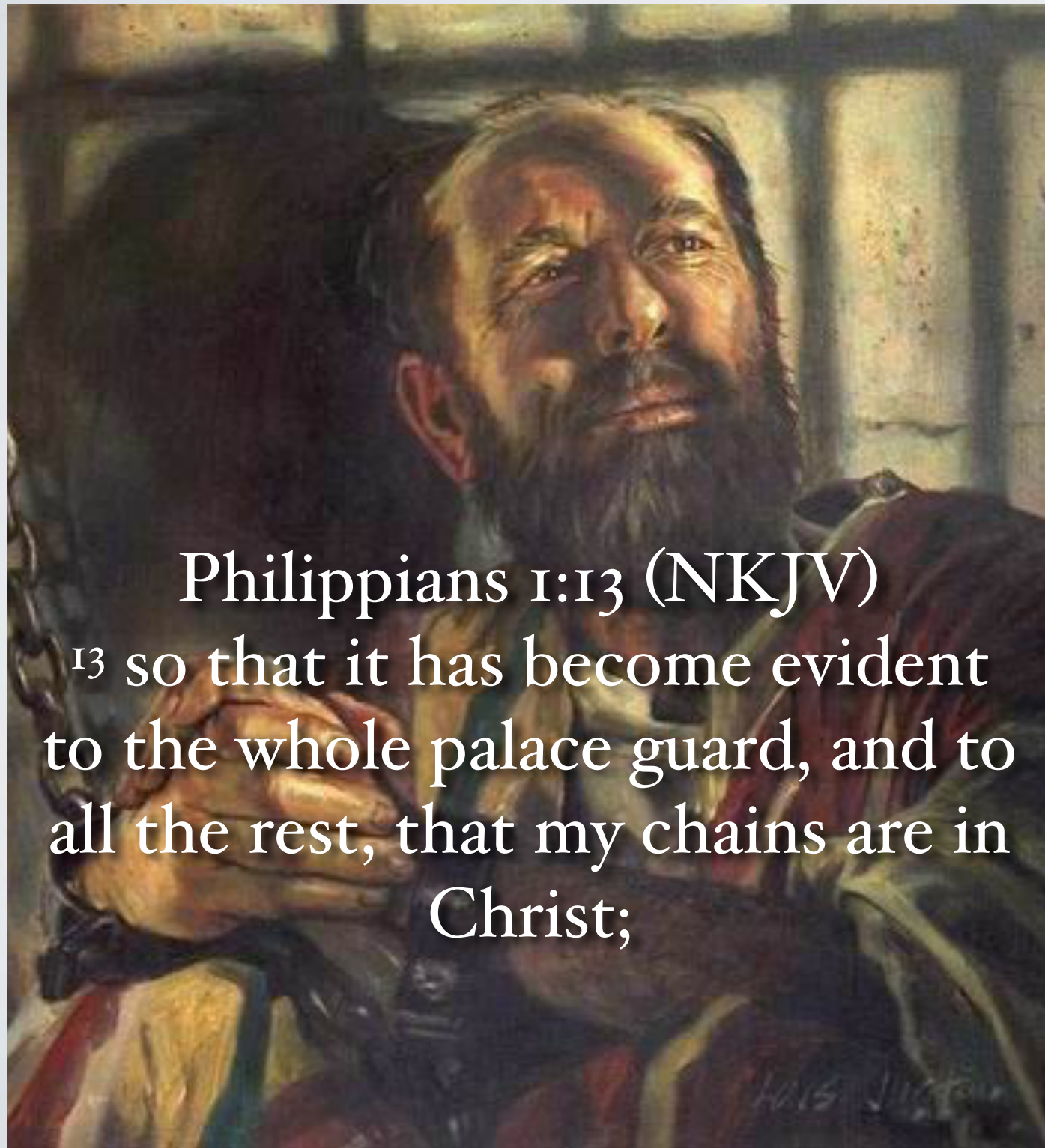
¹² But I want you to know, brethren, that the things *which* happened to me have actually turned out for the furtherance of the gospel,

• **The progress of the gospel (12)**

- ▶ Most would think persecution & imprisonment would slow down the spreading of the gospel - but that was NOT the case - Ac. 8:4; 11:19–21; 16:20-34
- ▶ The gospel could not be chained - 2 Tim 2:9
- ▶ Note Paul's CHOSEN perspective - Ro 8:31-39; Phil. 4:11-13

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

BENEFITS OF HIS IMPRISONMENT - (12-18)



Philippians 1:13 (NKJV)

¹³ so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ;

• **The Influence of the gospel** (13,14)

- ▶ The gospel was made known to "the whole palace guard" — [(praitōriō) likely praetorian guards, Roman soldiers] — (4:22)
- ▶ Paul was guarded at all times, so when Paul taught those who came to him, these guards heard what he said — (Acts 28:30; 16:25; Ep. 3:13; 6:19, 20; Col. 4:3,4.)

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

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Philippians 1:13 (NKJV)

¹³ so that it has become evident to the whole palace guard, and to all the rest, that my chains are in Christ;

• **The Influence of the gospel** (13,14)

- ▶ They knew the real reason for Paul's chains - perhaps some were converted — (4:22; 1 Peter 4:12-16)

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

BENEFITS OF HIS IMPRISONMENT - (12-18)



Philippians 1:14 (NKJV)

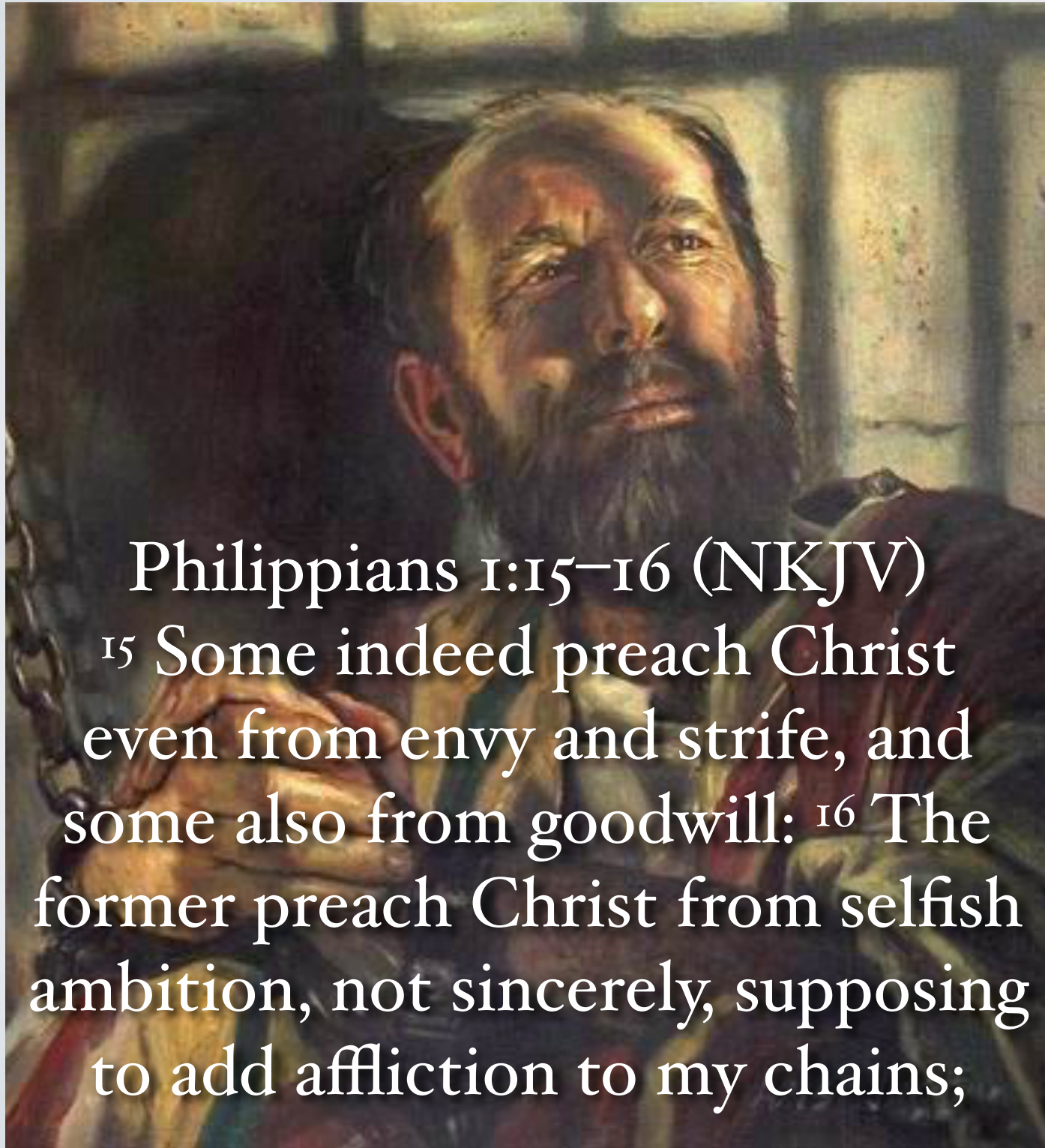
¹⁴ and most of the brethren in the Lord, having become confident by my chains, are much more bold to speak the word without fear.

• **The Influence of the gospel** (13,14)

- ▶ They knew the real reason for Paul's chains - perhaps some were converted — (4:22; 1 Peter 4:12-16)
- ▶ Paul's courage encouraged others — Their faith and boldness increased — (1 The 2:2; 2 Tim 4:17)
- ▶ So the gospel was being spread, and to Paul, that's GOOD news! —

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

BENEFITS OF HIS IMPRISONMENT - (12-18)



Philippians 1:15-16 (NKJV)

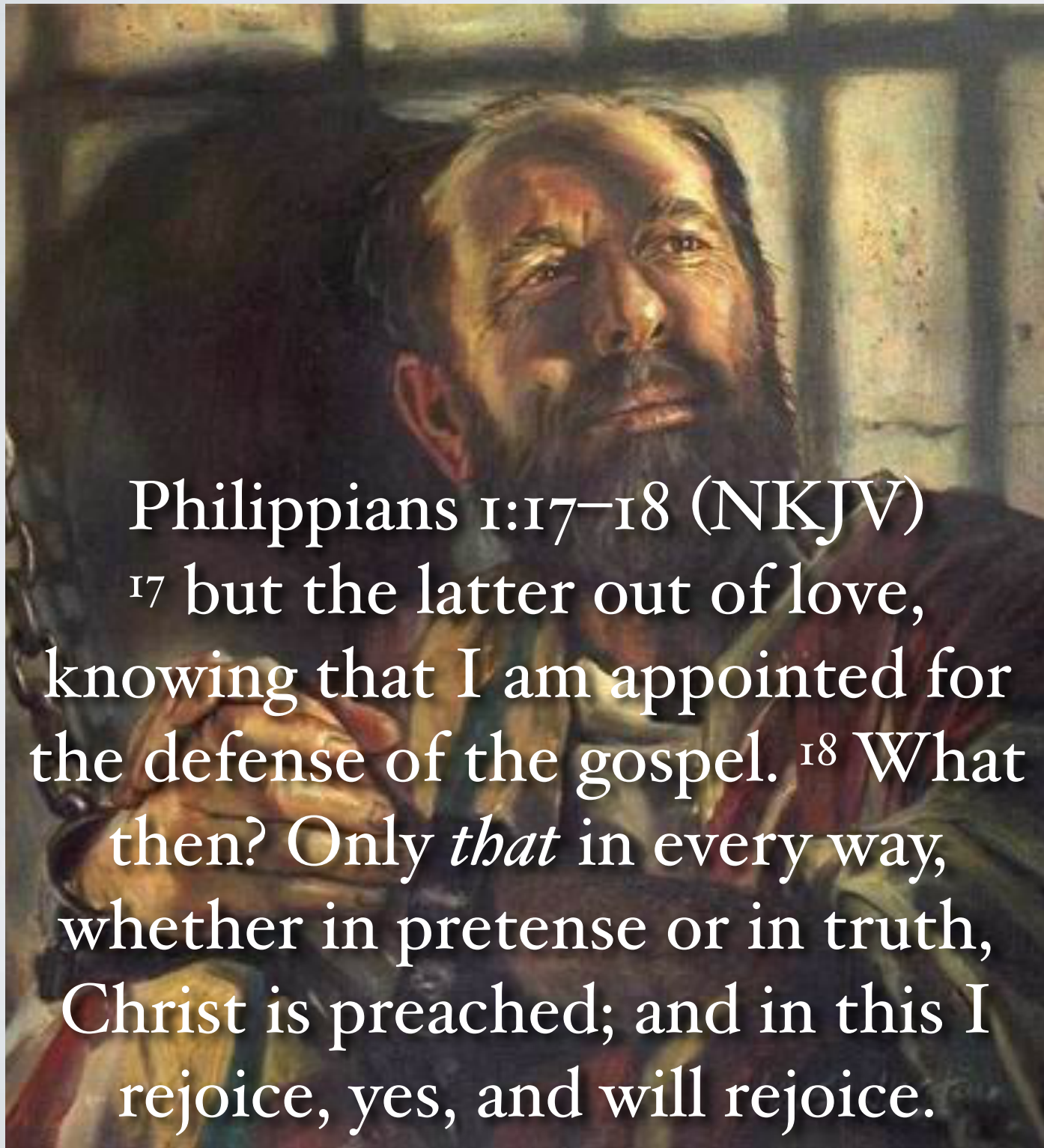
¹⁵ Some indeed preach Christ even from envy and strife, and some also from goodwill: ¹⁶ The former preach Christ from selfish ambition, not sincerely, supposing to add affliction to my chains;

• **The gospel is preached (15-18)**

- ▶ The people who were emboldened to speak God's Word were of two kinds. Some preached Christ out of envy & rivalry / others out of good will (v. 15)
- ▶ Not Judaizers - (3:2,3; Gal. 1:6,7) they were doctrinally sound, but were jealous of Paul and promoted themselves — (2:1-4; 1 Cor. 1:10-13; 3:1)

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

BENEFITS OF HIS IMPRISONMENT - (12-18)



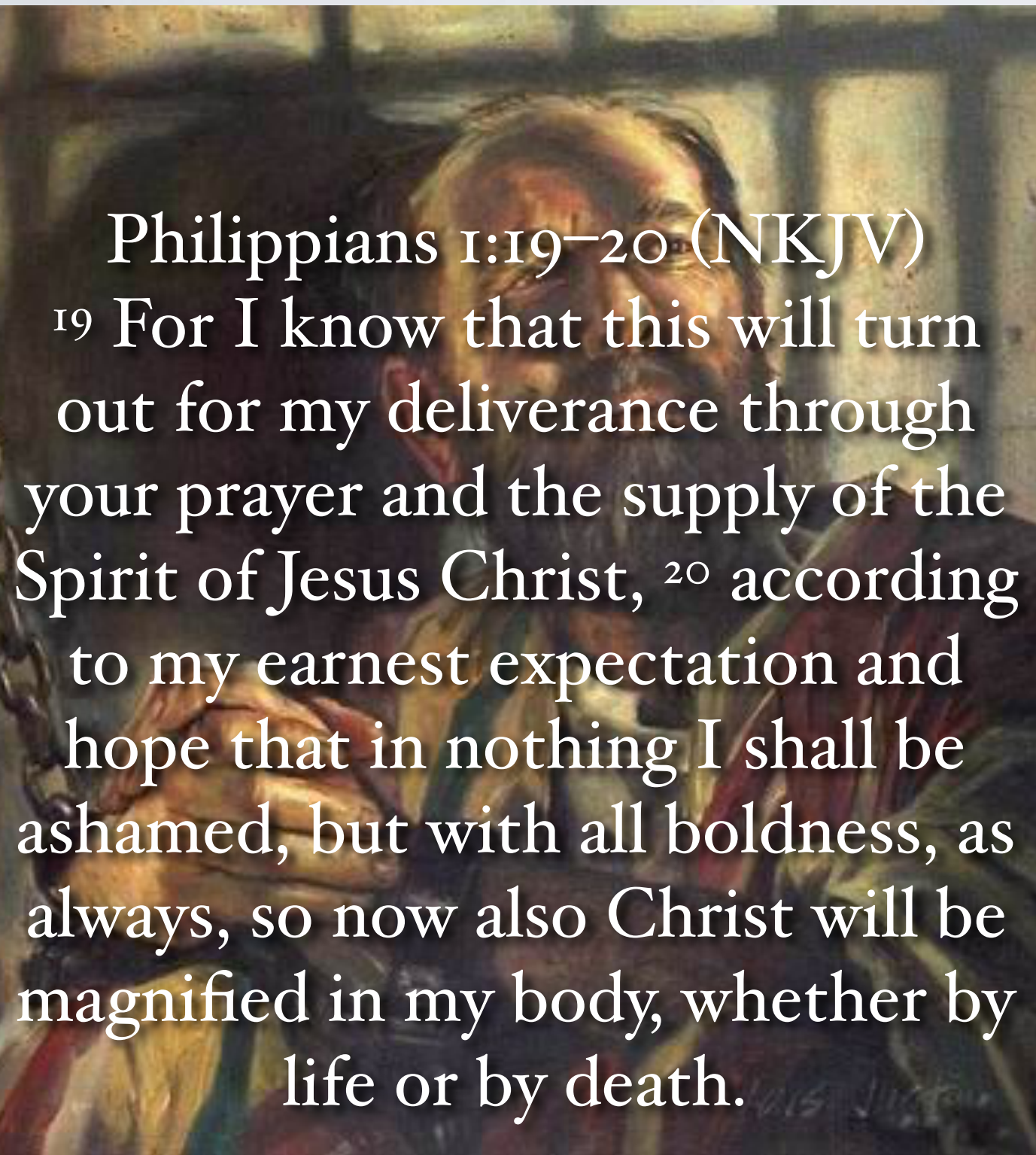
Philippians 1:17-18 (NKJV)

¹⁷ but the latter out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel. ¹⁸ What then? Only *that* in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is preached; and in this I rejoice, yes, and will rejoice.

- **The gospel is preached (15-18)**
 - ▶ Even though some preached out of insincere, others preached out of love - understanding and supporting Paul's efforts —
 - ▶ Content of the message preached is of utmost importance - all who hear will benefit! If motives are insincere, the preacher is negatively affected, but not so much the hearers.

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

BENEFITS OF HIS FAITHFULNESS - (19-26)



Philippians 1:19-20 (NKJV)

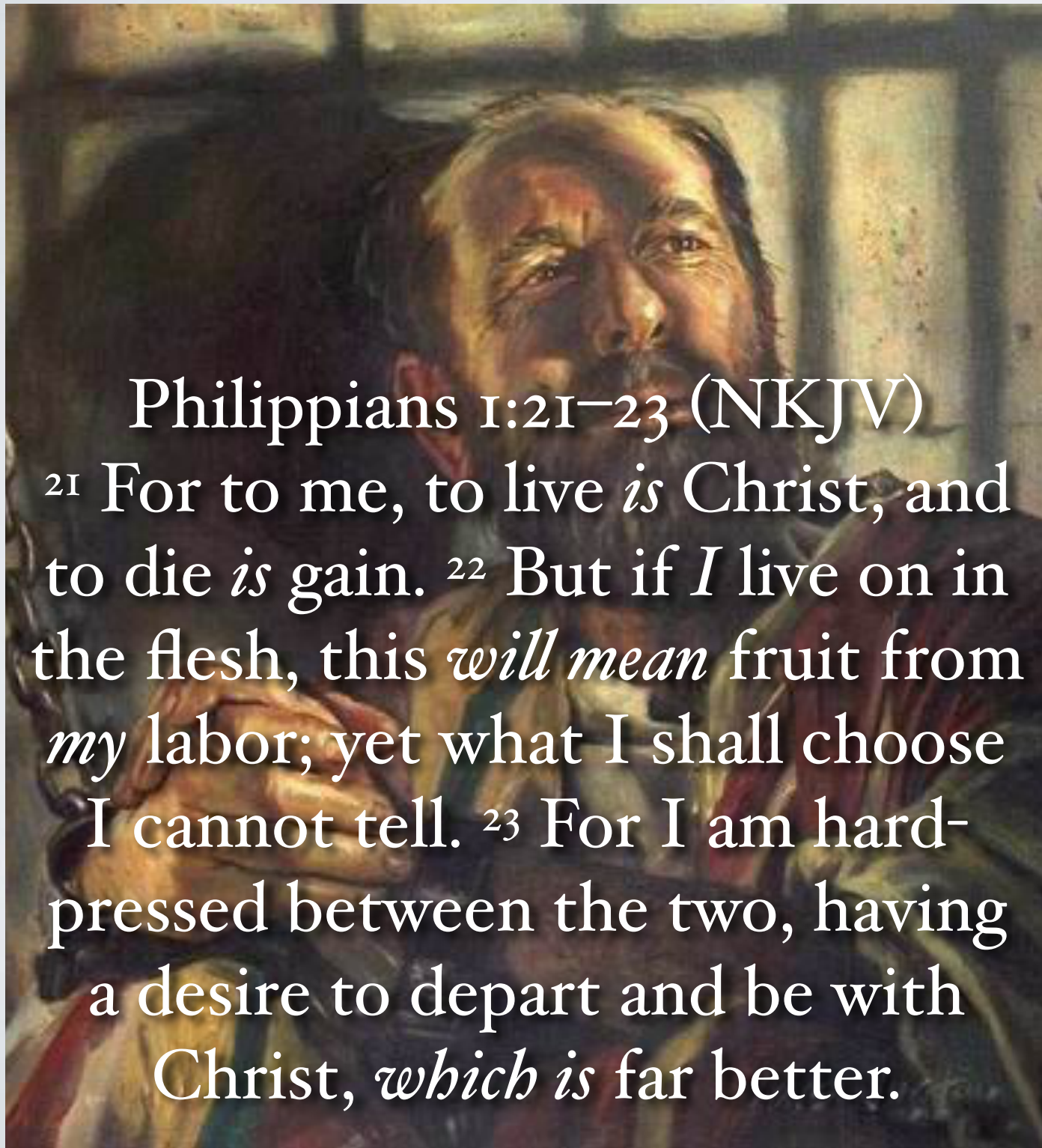
¹⁹ For I know that this will turn out for my deliverance through your prayer and the supply of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, ²⁰ according to my earnest expectation and hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death.

● **Christ magnified in life or death (19-23)**

- ▶ Although Paul was expecting to be delivered from prison, (25,26), there is a good reason to think Paul has more in mind when he speaks here of his deliverance.
- ▶ His earnest expectation and hope was his resurrection and being with Christ — (3:10,11)
- ▶ His primary purpose was to glorify Christ — in life or in death — (1:20; 3:12-4:1)

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

BENEFITS OF HIS FAITHFULNESS - (19-26)



Philippians 1:21-23 (NKJV)

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.

● **Christ magnified in life or death (19-23)**

- ▶ Paul's whole purpose in life, regardless of circumstance, was to serve Christ — (3:7-9; Col. 2:1; 3:1-4; Gal 2:20; 1 Pet 4:2.)
- ▶ Living in this world meant more labor and more fruit — (vs. 24; 1 Cor. 3:5-14)
- ▶ If Paul had a choice between magnifying Jesus in Life or in death - which would he choose?

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

BENEFITS OF HIS FAITHFULNESS - (19-26)



● **Brethren's well being in mind** (24-26)

- ▶ Paul's selfless attitude is revealed here by his placing his friends' needs above his own desires. — (2:1-4)
- ▶ Paul knew that if the Lord allowed him to continue in the flesh, he would be of great benefit to the church — (Acts 20:29-31)
- ▶ Paul's return would be a cause of great rejoicing - but mostly a source of edification.

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PHILIPPIANS — JOY NO MATTER WHAT

“Making The Most Out of What We Have”

Charts by Don McClain

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West 65th Street church of Christ P.O. Box 190062 / Little Rock AR 72219 /
501-568-1062 / Email – donmcclain@sbcglobal.net

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2 Corinthians 4:7–15 (NKJV)

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. ⁸ We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair; ⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—¹⁰ always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. ¹¹ For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus' sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh.

2 Corinthians 4:7–15 (NKJV)

¹² So then death is working in us, but life in you. ¹³ And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “*I believed and therefore I spoke,*” we also believe and therefore speak, ¹⁴ knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present *us* with you. ¹⁵ For all things *are* for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God.