

<sup>12</sup> Now I want you to know, brothers, that

**What has Happened to Me**

*Nero – Acts 28:30-31*

For **two whole years** Paul stayed there in his own **rented house** and welcomed all who came to see him.

<sup>31</sup> **Boldly** and **without hindrance** he **PREACHED** the **kingdom of God** and **TAUGHT** about the **Lord Jesus Christ**.

*Many Famous Letters from Prison*

4

*Apostle Paul / Dr. King / Dietrich Bonhoffer / John Bunyan*

*WHY such profound words*

has really served to **ADVANCE** the gospel.

*History*

13

<sup>13</sup> As a result, it has become  
**clear throughout** the

**Whole** **PALACE** **guard**

and to everyone else that I am  
in **chains** for **Christ**.

*Phil. 4:22*

*(How was he chained?)*

**ALL** the **SAINTS**

send you greetings,

**ESPECIALLY** those who belong to

**CAESAR'S** household.

**14 Because of my chains, most of the brothers in the Lord have been encouraged to speak the word of God MORE Courageously and Fearlessly.**

*(How will persecution begin in the United States – 4 steps )*

- 1. 501C3 – Declared Unconstitutional – Gives Gov't **Benefits** to those who **DISCRIMINATE** against the **CIVIL** rights of others*
- 2. Congress will **QUICKLY** pass a **NEW** law → all you have to do is **DENY** one part of the **Word of God.** → Genesis 3*
- 3. Most of the Churches - **80-90%** will **AGREE***
- 4. Steadily more legal restrictions against the “**Discriminators**”*

*(Take **ADVANTAGE** of **THIS** season )*

<sup>15</sup> It is **true** that some preach Christ out of **Envy & Rivalry** but **others** out of **Goodwill**.



<sup>16</sup> The latter do so in **Love**, knowing that I am put here for the defense of the gospel.

<sup>17</sup> The former preach Christ out of **Selfish Ambition**, not sincerely, supposing that they can **STIR up** **TROUBLE** for **me** while I am in **chains**.

*Church Split*

18 But **what** does it **matter**?

*Amazing Response*

*(Hurt by churches?)*

The

**IMPORTANT** thing

is that in every way,

whether from false motives or true,

**Christ is preached.**

And because of this I **REJOICE.**

Yes, and I will **continue** to **rejoice,**

<sup>19</sup> for I **KNOW** that thru your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for

**My DELIVERANCE.**

*Faith → I will **NOT** die.....*

**BUT**

*if I do.....*

<sup>20</sup> I eagerly **EXPECT** and **HOPE**

that I will in **no way be ashamed,**

but will have **Sufficient Courage**

so that now as always **Christ** will be **exalted** in my **body,**

**whether** by **LIFE** or by **DEATH.**

**FAITH**

21 **For** to **me,**  
to **Live** is **Christ** and  
to **die** is **Gain.**

22

If I am to **GO ON Living** in the body, this will mean  
**FRUITFUL LABOR** for me.

*Why Live Longer???*

Yet **What** shall I **Choose?**

*How?*

I do not know!

<sup>23</sup> I am torn between the two: I **desire** to **depart** and be with Christ, which is **Better** by **Far**; *(I confess to a longing)*

<sup>24</sup>

but it is **MORE NECESSARY** for **YOU**  
that I **remain** in the body.

<sup>25</sup> Convinced of this, I **KNOW** that I **will remain**, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith,

<sup>26</sup> so that through my being with you again **YOUR Joy** in Christ Jesus will **overflow** on **account** of me.

Next Week's Study

Stage # 1

**Seekers**



**Near  
the  
End  
of Time**

Stage # 2

Ready **TODAY**  
to Give  
**Everything**  
to Jesus



**To LIVE  
is  
CHRIST**

Stage # 3

**GROWING**  
in  
  
**Jesus**

**Good or Bad  
Times  
I  
WILL serve  
Jesus**



**Seekers**

**&**

**Salvation**



**Please**

**Finish** what

Let us **Serve** &

you **Started**

**Pray** for you



***Pastor Johns Personal testimony***  
***2 cds***