Sermon Notes - Dr. Tom Rush, Pastor - Dec. 15, 2019

THE CHALLENGE OF CHAINS Philippians 1:12-18

Our view of trials is generally all wrong.

Trials are designed to ...

- 1. Help us grow spiritually
- 2. Make us more like Christ
- 3. Develop us in Holiness

Do you see **THE PROVIDENCE OF GOD** in all of this?

Note: Things don't "just" happen - there is a divine cause behind all things!

-What is God's purpose? Cf. Rom. 8:28-30

In our text and the verses following, 1:12-26, we will find three very clear observations regarding how God uses trials in our lives. First, we see that *trials produce missionary opportunities* (vv. 12-14).

Second, trials provide motivation for obedience (vv. 15-18). Third, trials prioritize magnifying the One True and Living God (vv. 19-26).

Our witness, our wisdom, and our worship are all improved when we respond correctly to adversity.

Three key things that Paul's imprisonment did, which worked for the furtherance of the Gospel ...

I. Christ was Made Evident (vv. 12-13)

II. Others became Confident (v. 14)

III. You will become Radiant (vv. 15-18)