

Leader

Phil. 1:18

What then? Only that in every way, whether in pretense or in truth, Christ is proclaimed; and in this I rejoice, yes, and I will rejoice.

## Congregation

Phil. 1:19-20

For I know that this shall turn out for my deliverance through your prayers and the provision of the Spirit ... <sup>20</sup>according to my earnest expectation and hope, that I shall not be put to shame ... but *that* with all boldness, Christ shall ... be exalted in my body, whether by life or by death.

Leader

Phil. 1:21

<sup>21</sup>For to me, to live is Christ,  
and to die is gain.

## Congregation

Phil. 1:22-24

<sup>22</sup>But if *I am* to live *on* in the flesh, this *will mean* fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which to choose. <sup>23</sup>But I am hard-pressed from both *directions*, having the desire to depart and be with Christ, for *that* is very much better; <sup>24</sup>yet to remain on in the flesh is more necessary for your sake.

Leader

Phil. 1:25,26

<sup>25</sup>And convinced of this, I know that I shall remain and continue with you all for your progress and joy in the faith, <sup>26</sup>so that your proud confidence in me may abound in Christ Jesus through my coming to you again.

Congregation

Phil. 1:27,28

<sup>27</sup>Only conduct yourselves ...  
worthy of the gospel of Christ;  
so that whether I come ... or  
remain absent, I may hear ...  
that you are standing firm in  
one spirit, with one mind  
striving together for the faith of  
the gospel; <sup>28</sup>in no way alarmed  
by *your* opponents

Leader

Phil. 1:28-30

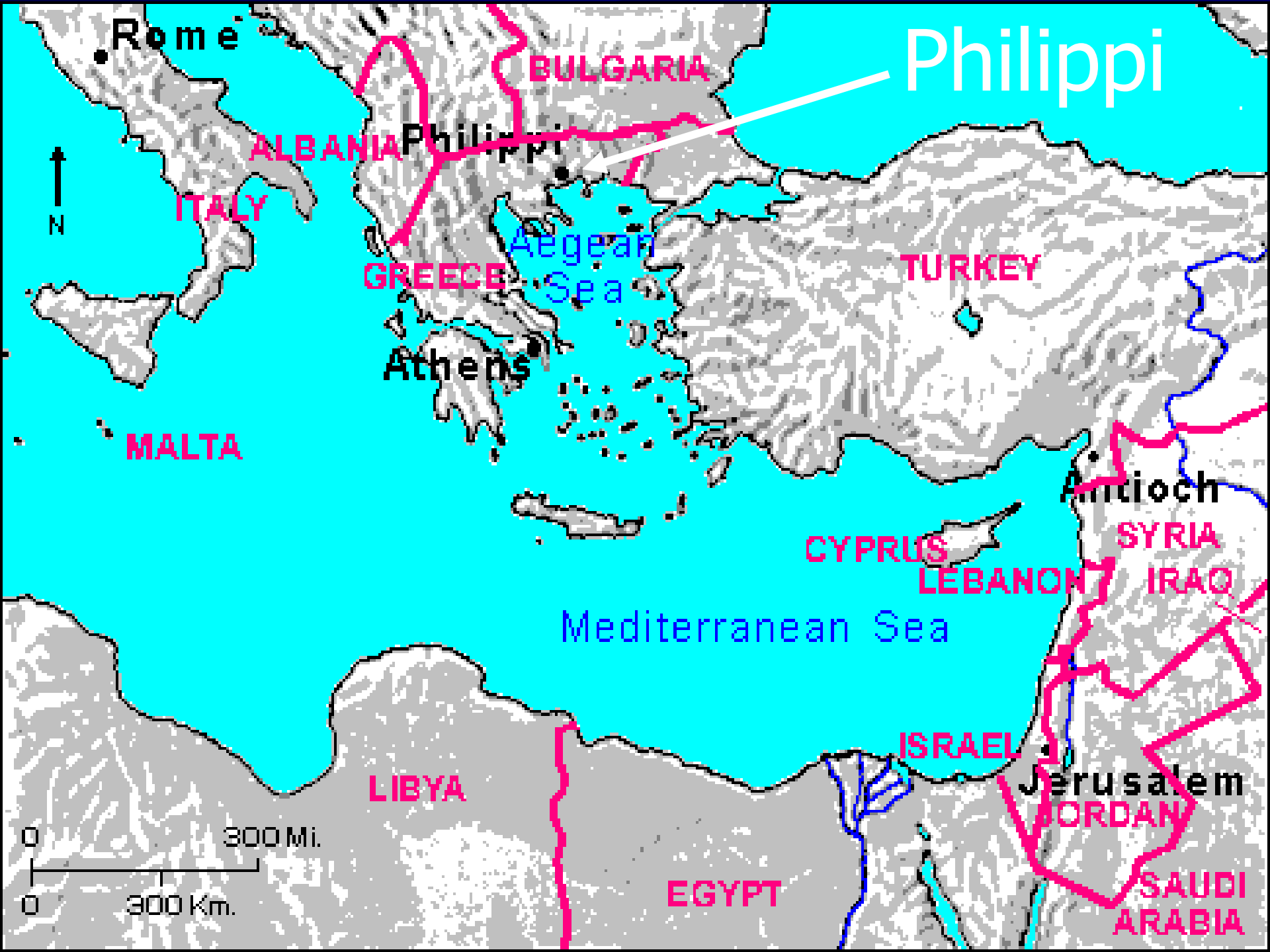
-- which is a sign of destruction for them, but of salvation for you, and that *too*, from God. <sup>29</sup>For to you it has been granted for Christ's sake, not only to believe in Him, but also to suffer for His sake, <sup>30</sup>experiencing the same conflict which you saw in me, and now hear *to be* in me.

A dramatic landscape with a bright light breaking through dark, heavy clouds over a body of water. The light creates a strong glow and a shimmering reflection on the water's surface. The sky is filled with dark, textured clouds, and the water in the foreground is dark with many small, bright reflections.

# Becoming a Transforming Community

Philippians 1:19-30

Partnership Brings Joy in Trouble II



Philippi

BULGARIA

ALBANIA

Philippi

ITALY

GREECE

Aegean Sea

TURKEY

Athens

MALTA

Antioch

CYPRUS

SYRIA

LEBANON

IRAQ

Mediterranean Sea

ISRAEL

Jerusalem

JORDAN

LIBYA

EGYPT

SAUDI ARABIA

0 300 Mi.  
0 300 Km.



## Introduction: (Philippians 1:19-30)

- Theme: As partners in Christ let's pray, progress & express joy as we stand & strive together, not intimidated by our opponents.

# Partners in Prayer (1:19-21)

- **We** pray: “I rejoice for I know this shall turn out for my deliverance...”
- How will it come?
  - Partnership in the Spirit ...
  - Through **your prayers**
  - Through **provision** of the **Spirit**

## Partners in Prayer (1:19-21)

- What is deliverance? Being let out of prison? Escaping with his life? No!
- Paul has earnest expectation that he'll
  - avoid shame (hurting Christ)
  - boldly exalt Christ in his body...
  - by life **or** death!
- His focus is long term security in Christ, not immediate relief.

## Partners in Prayer (1:21-24)

- **Principle:** “for to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain (profit)”
- Tension: Live or die? Which?
- Desire ... depart with Christ (better)
  - Strike tent, release prisoner, unyoke oxen, set sail
- Duty ... remain with them (necessary)

# Partners in Prayer (1:25,26)

- And you?
- “For to me to live is .....
  - power, esteem, car, house, vacation?
- “And to die is .....”
  - the end of it all?
- “Christianity is Christ”

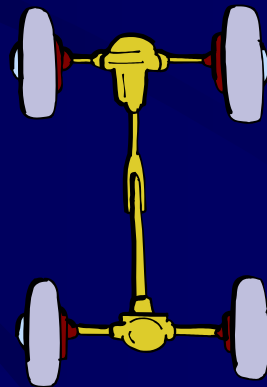
## Partners in Prayer (1:25,26)

- “I shall remain & continue w/you...
  - For your **progress** (prokope)
  - For your **joy**”
- Do you make decisions based on the impact on Christians around you?
  - Not being a stumbling block?
  - Helping them progress?



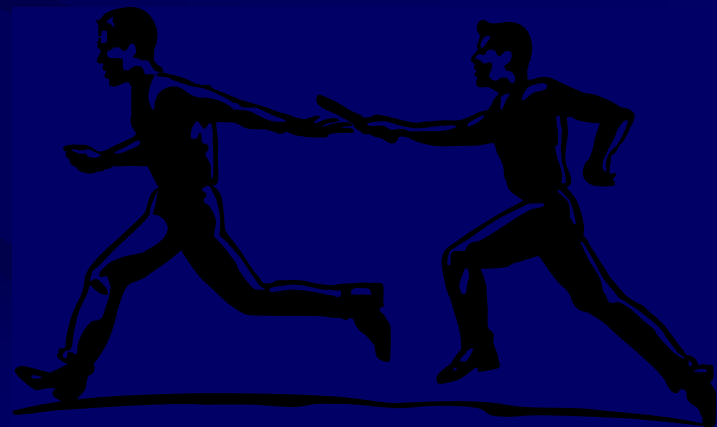
## Partners: Standing & Striving (1:27-28)

- “Only conduct selves worthy of Christ so whether I come or stay...”
- Conduct: “Politeo”, live as citizen.
- Worthy: “Axios”



# Partners: Standing & Striving (1:27-28)

- “Only conduct selves worthy of Christ so whether I come or stay you’re...”
  - **Standing** firm ... in one spirit
  - **Striving** together ... with one mind
    - “sunathleo”



## Partners: Standing & Striving (1:27-28)

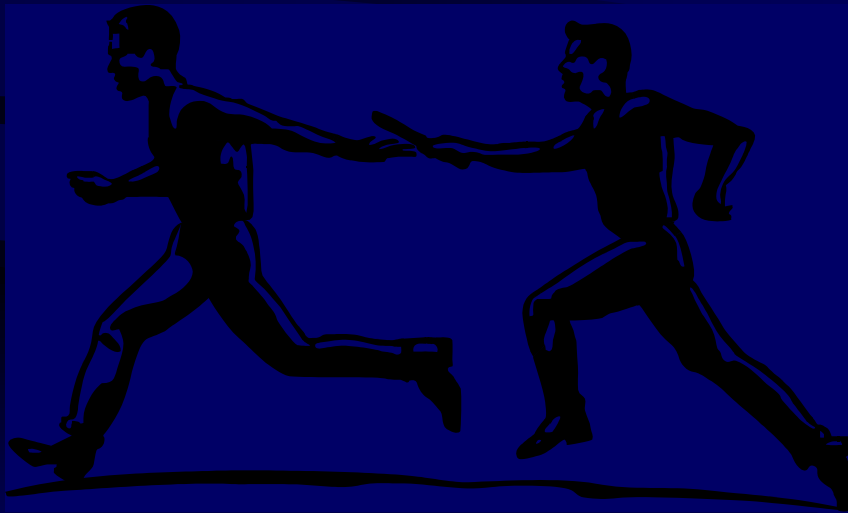
- “Only conduct selves worthy of Christ...”
  - **Not alarmed** by opponents
    - You’ll have opponents. “So what?”
    - Battles indicate identity
- “He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”  
-Jim Elliot

# Partners: Standing & Striving (1:27,28)

- **Principle:** It's been granted to you for Christ to...
  - **Believe**
  - **Suffer**
  - **Experience** same conflict (agony)
    - Don't be surprised!

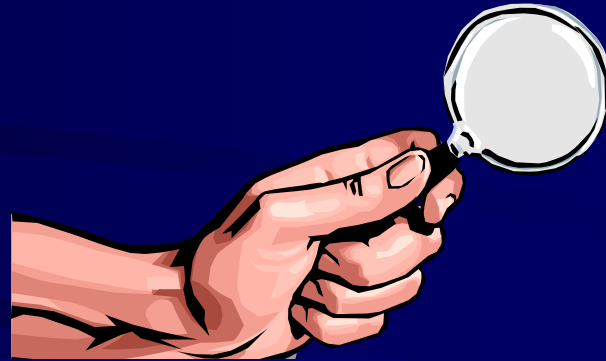
# Applications

- Have you dropped the baton?
  - Go back, pick it up & rejoin the others



## Applications:

- Key expectation--not shame Christ but boldly display Him



- Don't set hope on anything that can be taken away