


Personal setback = gospel advance
Philippians 1: 12-30

St James' by the Park

Warning

Threat of Minor Peril.

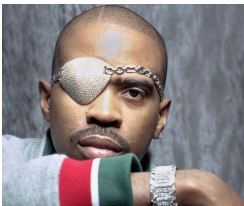
St James' by the Park

In Chains for Christ

"Now I want you to know brothers that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel."

St James' by the Park

"Even if I got deported, I own America"



- Supporters are going to support all the more.
- Negative press is only going to draw more attention to me.
- What has happened to me is going to end up serving me.

Maybe I'll even buy a diamond encrusted eye patch?

St James' by the Park

In Chains for Christ

"But as for me, may I never boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ"
 Galatians 6:14

- Supporters of Christ are going to support him all the more.
- Negative press is only going to draw more attention to Jesus.
- My chains are going to benefit the gospel.

St James' by the Park

Christ will be exalted in my body

whether by life or by death.

There was a very real threat to Paul's life:

- Paul had been present during the stoning of Stephen.
- Paul has previously been stoned and left for dead.
- Paul would go on to be martyred.

St James' by the Park

To live is Christ but to die is Gain.

To live is Christ:

- Live to know Christ.
- Live for Christ, the advancement of his gospel.
- Live as Christ, attempt to follow his example.



To live is Christ but to die is Gain.

To die is Gain:

- To be with Christ.

"I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far;"



Rejoicing when suffering

"...I will continue to rejoice, for I know that through your prayers and the help given by the Spirit of Jesus Christ, what has happened to me will turn out for my deliverance."



He who feels it knows it:



Yet suffering is real:

"For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe on him but also to suffer for him."

