

## Joy Regardless: Spend Your Life Philippians 2:17-18

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<sup>17</sup> Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all. <sup>18</sup> Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me.

Philippians 2:17-18 ESV

### **Even if I am to be poured out as a drink offering (Philippians 2:17a)**

“Some, like A.T. Robertson (Bible scholar), suggest that since the Philippians came out of a pagan Greco-Roman culture, it is more likely that they would think of this latter type of sacrifice, than the Old Testament drink offering. But either way, the basic meaning is the same: both would involve taking a measure of wine, and instead of using it for personal pleasure and drinking – they would pour it out as a sacrifice that would please the god who was its object. The idea was that it was “wasted” as far as their personal use went, but “spent” in a sacrifice to their god instead.”

~Shawn Thomas

Spendomai: poured out as a drink offering

From the Greek verb: spendō – pour out as a drink offering

Another resource framed it like this: pour; to devote; spend; (be ready to) be offered...

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. <sup>35</sup> For whoever would save his life<sup>[d]</sup> will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. <sup>36</sup> For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?

Mark 8:34-36

### **“upon the sacrificial offering of your faith, I am glad and rejoice with you all.” (Philippians 2:17b)**

Couple things to note here:

1. Paul rejoiced in the progress these Christians were making, regardless of what it cost him. When he said “the sacrificial offering of your faith” he could have been alluding to the sacrificial giving the Philippians made to his ministry. Through their giving, they enabled him to be a drink offering.
2. In the ritual, the drink offering was secondary to the sacrificial offering. So the way Paul set this up, he was essentially saying that they were primary and he was secondary.
3. Lastly, Paul had joy in spending his life for the sake of these people.

“Paul did not merely accept his lot as an apostle; he rejoiced in the faith of the church no matter what the cost to him.” ~Richard Melick

**<sup>18</sup> Likewise you also should be glad and rejoice with me. (Philippians 2:18)**

“Two little lines I heard one day, traveling along life’s busy way;  
Bringing conviction to my heart, and from my mind would not depart;  
Only one life, ’twill soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last.

Only one life, yes only one, soon will its fleeting hours be done;  
Then, in ‘that day’ my Lord to meet, and stand before His Judgment seat; Only one life,  
’twill soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last.

Only one life, the still small voice, gently pleads for a better choice  
Bidding me selfish aims to leave, and to God’s holy will to cleave;  
Only one life, ’twill soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last.

Only one life, yes only one, now let me say, “Thy will be done”;  
And when at last I’ll hear the call, I know I’ll say “’twas worth it all”;  
Only one life, ’twill soon be past, only what’s done for Christ will last. ”

And then he added one extra half-stanza:

“And when I am dying, how happy I’ll be, if the lamp of my life has been burned out for Thee.” CT Studd