

Pastor Ron Case  
4/19/15

## **“God’s Prisoner”**

*“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called” (Ephesians 4:1)*

### **Paul’s Paradigm**

**Philippians 1:12-13** – (12) “I want you to know, brothers, that what has happened to me has really served to advance the gospel, (13) so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to all the rest that my imprisonment is for Christ.”

**Philippians 2:17** – “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.”

**Philippians 4:18** – “**But I have all, and abound:** I am full, having received of Epaphroditus the things *which were sent* from you, an odor of a sweet smell, a sacrifice acceptable, well pleasing to God.” (KJV)

### **Joseph’s Journey**

**Genesis 37:36** – “Meanwhile the Midianites had sold him in Egypt to Potiphar, an officer of Pharaoh, the captain of the guard.”

**Genesis 39:20** – “And Joseph’s master took him and put him into the prison, the place where the king’s prisoners were confined, and he was there in prison.”

**Genesis 41:14** – “Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph, and they quickly brought him out of the pit. And when he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh.”

**Genesis 41:44** – “Moreover, Pharaoh said to Joseph, ‘I am Pharaoh, and without your consent no one shall lift up hand or foot in all the land of Egypt.’”

<b>Key Point: Who God Confines, He Assigns to Greatness</b>
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**Genesis 41:52** – “The name of the second he called Ephraim, ‘For God has made me fruitful in the land of my affliction.’”

### **Response:**

#### **(1) Have Faith in Your Vindicator**

“And will not God give justice to his elect, who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long over them? I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?” (Luke 18:7-8)

#### **(2) Cry Out to God**

“[God] regards the prayer of the destitute and does not despise their prayer. Let this be recorded for a generation to come, so that a people yet to be created may praise the LORD: that he looked down from his holy height; from heaven the LORD looked at the earth, to hear the groans of the prisoners, to set free those who were doomed to die, that they may declare in Zion the name of the LORD, and in Jerusalem his praise.” (Psalm 102:17-21)

#### **(3) Seek Contentment; Avoid Resentment**

“So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.” (1 Corinthians 7:24)

### **Questions:**

What impacted me the most in this message?

Am I experiencing some form of confinement of which I long to be free?

How did Jesus experience confinement? (Phil. 2:5-8; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 2:17)