

Can we ever imagine being so committed to anything???

And it is my prayer that **your love may abound more and more**, with knowledge and all discernment, **so that you may approve what is excellent...**(Philippians 1:9-10)

1. Paul's terrible situation...

In prison, v12-14

Utter betrayal, v15-17

2. ...actually advances the gospel

The imperial guard v12, other brothers v14, rival preachers v17.

To clear your name **VS** sacrifice reputation for Jesus.

To want suffering to end **VS** living on in jail for Jesus.

Paul is so **committed to Jesus** that he chooses the **most excellent option**.

3. ...and so he rejoices.

"What then? Only that in every way...Christ is proclaimed, and in that I rejoice", v18

"For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain", v21

A win-win, no lose strategy.

How can anyone defeat Paul, or split up his churches?