



“But God...”

2 Timothy 4:6-18

Psalm 73:26

The “But God...” Principle:

Living in this world will bring experiences of injustice, loneliness, desertion, lack of support, betrayal, and even harm. **But God** is present with His people through it all, giving the strength to face these experiences with the attitudes and actions that honor Him.

1. Paul’s situation and disappointments.

- A prisoner in Rome. *1:8, 11, 12, 16, 17*
- Anticipating death. *v. 6-8*
- Deserted by Demas. *v. 9-10*
- Alone, except for Luke. *v.11*
- Remembering harm done by Alexander. *v. 14-15*
- Not supported at his first court appearance. *v. 16*

Most of us can relate

2. Paul’s confidence and belief.

- Presence. *Matthew 28:20 / Hebrews 13:5 / Psalm 46:1*
- Strength. *Psalm 73:26 / Philippians 4:13 / 2 Corinthians 12:10*

Many of us can relate

3. Paul’s attitudes and actions.

- Still ministering. *v. 11, 17*
- Needing the scriptures. *v. 13*
- Resisting vengeance. *v. 14, 15*
- Forgiving. *v. 16*
- Holding to the hope of heaven. *v. 18*
- Giving glory to God. *v. 18*

Fewer of us can relate