

Philippians 2:24

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly.

Analysis

But I trust in the Lord that I also myself shall come shortly (πέποιθα δὲ ἐν κυρίῳ ὅτι καὶ αὐτὸς ταχέως ἐλεύσομαι, *pepoitha de en kyriō hoti kai autos tacheōs eleusomai*)—*Pepoitha en kyriō* ("I am confident in the Lord," perfect tense) expresses settled trust in Christ's sovereign will. *Kai autos* ("I myself also") adds Paul to Timothy's anticipated visit (v. 19). *Tacheōs* ("shortly, soon") is the same adverb as v. 19—Paul expects both Timothy's delegation and his own release/visit soon.

This confidence echoes 1:25 ("I know that I shall abide and continue with you all"). Paul anticipates release from Roman imprisonment, not execution. Whether by prophetic insight, legal assessment, or sanctified hope, Paul expects God will preserve him for further ministry. His confidence is qualified: *en kyriō* ("in the Lord")—he submits even certain expectations to God's sovereignty. Christian confidence isn't presumption but trust in God's faithful purposes.

Historical Context

Paul's confidence proved justified—he was released from this Roman imprisonment (evidenced by Pastoral Epistles, which presume a fourth missionary journey). His martyrdom came later, likely under Nero (c. AD 64-67). This letter dates to earlier imprisonment (c. AD 60-62). Paul's hope to visit Philippi again would've brought great joy (1:26). Reunions after imprisonment were occasions for thanksgiving and celebration.

Related Passages

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Romans 1:17 — The righteous shall live by faith

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How do you distinguish Spirit-given confidence 'in the Lord' from presumptuous certainty?
2. What hopes about the future do you hold with open hands, trusting God's sovereignty?
3. How can you be purposeful about plans while remaining flexible to God's redirection?

Interlinear Text

πέποιθα	δὲ	ἐν	κυρίῳ	ὅτι	καὶ	αὐτὸς	ταχέως
I trust	But	in	the Lord	that	also	myself	shortly
G3982	G1161	G1722	G2962	G3754	G2532	G846	G5030

ἐλεύσομαι

I
G2064

Additional Cross-References

Philemon 1:22 (Faith): But withal prepare me also a lodging: for I trust that through your prayers I shall be given unto you.

3 John 1:14 (Faith): But I trust I shall shortly see thee, and we shall speak face to face. Peace be to thee. Our friends salute thee. Greet the friends by name.

Philippians 2:19 (Faith): But I trust in the Lord Jesus to send Timotheus shortly unto you, that I also may be of good comfort, when I know your state.

2 John 1:12 (Faith): Having many things to write unto you, I would not write with paper and ink: but I trust to come unto you, and speak face to face, that our joy may be full.

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