
Date: March 15, 2026, 8:30 AM and 10:30 AM

Today's Message: *"St. Paul and St. Patrick: 'As Iron Sharpens Iron'"*

Text: A Study in God's Word Based on Philippians 1:12-26

Tuesday of this coming week will be St. Patrick's Day. Patrick stands out in history as "the patron saint of Ireland" and will be honored on March 17 with celebrations among the Irish marked by heavy drinking and wild partying. That's unfortunate because Patrick – as we shall learn this morning – was actually a devout man of God and consecrated servant of Christ. Scholars have likened him to St. Paul whom he sought to emulate. As "iron sharpens iron" (Prov. 27:17), so also was Patrick sharpened by Paul through the apostle's New Testament writings and inspiring personal example. Let's study these two spiritual giants now and see for ourselves how each, in turn, strove to "make, mature and multiply disciples of Jesus" in his own time and place:

- I. The Familiar **TESTIMONY** of Paul – Phil. 1:19-21
 - A. The Apostle's consuming ambition: to **EXALT CHRIST**.

 - B. What will it take for you and me to live as Paul did?
 1. Dedication to the **GOAL**.

 2. **SUBMISSION** to the Spirit.

- II. The Fascinating **STORY** of Patrick (389? - 461?)

