

I. Righteousness Gained - Phil. 3:8-11

1. Knowing Christ was of surpassing worth to Paul (**verse 8**)
 - A. Other things are garbage
 - B. All is loss
- Rea C. Verse 8 is a comparison of all his other things of worth, with the worth of knowing Christ
2. Be found in Him (**verse 9**)
 - A. With a new and different type of “righteousness”
 - B. The righteousness that comes from God
- Rea 3. Note
 - A. “Found” in Him
 - B. Found “in” Him - within the realm of knowing Him
 - union with Him - connected to Him
4. I want to know Christ (**verse 10**)
 - know power
 - know sufferings - having become like Him in His death (participate in His sufferings)
- Rea 5. Know Him
 - be like Him in death
 - die to self
 - you have to die to be raised from the dead
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. Was “knowing Christ” Paul’s goal? His motto?
 2. Paul compares things that are “worth” a lot - and knowing Christ is worth it all
 3. If knowing Christ is your goal, then you endure sufferings and persecutions, knowing that they will result in greater “knowing” of Christ

II. Sanctification Begun - Phil. 3:12-14

1. The process of Sanctification begins at conversion (**verse 12**)
 - he had not “attained” all this... yet
 - he has not “arrived”
- Rea -he is not perfect, and he knows it
2. He presses forward to take hold on all that God has saved him for
- Rea 3. Has been “apprehended” now presses to “apprehend”
4. He narrows his goal (**verse 13**) - to “one thing”
- Rea 5. Having a good focus requires that you forget some things
 - discuss what Paul needed to forget
- Rea 6. Note that he “strives” - his discipleship is diligent, not easy-going
7. The goal and the prize (**verse 14**)
- Rea -you reach the goal and win the prize
8. The call is heavenward
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. Note that all this is future, not present nor past
 2. We often lose focus - how do we get diverted?

3. His life and lifestyle is a question - a race - a goal
 - do you think that Paul was “goal-directed” - and what was his goal?
4. Important to get this - what is success for Paul?
 - what is success for you?
5. Paul’s goal was to know Christ
 - our goal is to win lots of converts
 - to have a big church
 - to “make an impact”
 - to be important

III. Warning Issued - Phil. 3:15-19

1. All who are mature should think this way (**verse 15**)
 - God will make this clear to them perhaps in the future
2. Let us live up to what we already have (**verse 16**)
 - conduct yourself at a level commiserate with what you already know and have
- Rea 3. Follow my example (**verse 17**)
 - use us as a model
 - watch those who live a good Christian life
- Rea 4. Many live as enemies of the cross (**verse 18**)
 - real people who are really following Jesus need real examples (concrete)
- Rea 5. Many live as enemies of the cross (**verse 18**)
 - brought tears from Paul
- Rea 6. These “enemies” are legalistic Jews who live for food laws and their own glory (**verse 19**)
 - this is our real world, just as it was the real world of Paul - living in the midst of enemies
- Rea 7. Note:
 - A. Destruction is their end
 - B. Their god is their belly - carnal lusts
 - C. Their own glory is their goal
 - D. Summary phrase is “their mind is set on earthly things”
 - here is a contrast with earthly focus and heavenly focus - as is made clearer in verses 20-21
- Rea 8. In the normal Christian church of 2021 there are many who are just like this
 - their focus is not on knowing Christ/ God - their focus is on their own glory
- Rea 9. By contrast... “our” citizenship is in heaven (**verse 20**)
 - versus earthly focus (verse 19)
 - we wait a Savior from there - the Second Coming
- Rea 10. He will come... and He will transform our earthly bodies (**verse 21**)
 - lowly bodies will be changed into glorious body - like His
- Rea 11. discuss this “glorious body” - will it be like the resurrection body of Jesus?
- Rea **Ideas and Questions:**
 1. An overriding theme here is the contrast between earthly and heavenly
 - you can have a saved soul and yet still live for this life and all it offers
 - that’s because your focus is wrong
 2. If you are focused on your self:

- you will be focused on your own “glory”
- you will be focused on your own bodily needs (your belly) - life is much more than what you put in your stomach
- you cannot be focused on Jesus and yourself at the same time - no man can serve two masters

Jerry Batson/ SS Lesson for 9-26-21