

Series "Joy In Christ"
"A Warning"
Philippians 3:1-9
Part-11

Philippians 1:21 For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain.

Paul's purpose for the letter was to encourage the believers to find Christ-centered joy in living. Philippians 3:1

Now - Philippians 3 - Joy In Sharing:

A Warning 1-9; A Testimony 10-11; A Goal 12-16; A Command 17-21

A Warning: Some false teachers had crept in and were a threat to the believers' joy!

Judaizers – must become Jews to be saved.

Legalism – *"It is an attempt through self-effort, self-work, self-accomplishments, or self-reform, to make oneself pleasing to God. To merit His grace (Salvation) and favor, or the earning of God's blessings."*

Justified – Legal term "to declare not guilty, it is the act of God, whereby He declares the believing sinner righteous in Jesus Christ."

Thought Of Our Passage: "A Genuine Child Of God Has Received Salvation By Grace Through Faith, Without Works, Resulting In Joy."

1. Verses 1-6 Works And Righteousness:

2. Verses 7-9 Faith And Righteousness:

1. Verses 1-6 Works And Righteousness:

Philippians 3:1 Finally, my brethren,

Is saying, *"As far as the rest is concerned."*

This adverb does not signal the end of this letter, but an abrupt change in the subject. (Literally "a Hinge") **Philippians 4:8 Finally, brethren,**

Context – Verses 19-30 "Right Models of Humility in Service"

Paul used Timothy and Epaphroditus,

Philippians 2:30 Now

Philippians 3 - Joy In Sharing:

my brethren – Paul is speaking to those who have received Jesus as Savior.

rejoice in the Lord

three times (3:1, 4:4, 4:10) literally *"keep on rejoicing in the Lord"* or *"find your chief joy in the Lord"* **Theme of Philippians 1:25; 2:2, 17-18, 28-29** Living in

Christ, joy, peace, purpose! **Joy, Rejoice – 36 times**

To write the same things again

What "same things"? About being in Jesus Christ.

A Faithful Minister Declares Truth but also Exposes Error.

no trouble – *"not grievous, it does not delay me"*
(We would say, "It's No Sweat")

Apostle Peter - 2 Peter 1:12

Term **safeguard** - *"to totter or to reel"*
We can lose sight of the dangers of our age.

Philippians 3:2 Three times

Beware - means *"to keep on looking out, to continue watching, or watch for."*

Religious Imposters:

Paul gives three characteristics of the same group: Judaizers

Paul described them in **2 Corinthians 11:13**

1. Beware of the dogs, (Jews called Gentiles, "dogs." Now, Paul reverses it.)

These were wild scavengers. They would bite people, and were mean.
(Their Character) This is a title applied to the unbelievers, who are filthy and vulgar. *A dog metaphor. A man of an impure mind.*
Revelation 22:15 excluded from heaven.

2. beware of the evil workers,

This speaks of **(Their Conduct.)**

They were workers who promoted their false beliefs/doctrines. **Matthew 7:15**

Their work was marked by hypocrisy and a heretical message.

Matthew 23:15

3. beware of the false circumcision; (Their Creed)

Paul is contrasting the true circumcision with their false.

Paul's word **circumcision**, *"to cut up, mutilation, emasculate themselves."*
(*Mutilated the ordinance to be essential for salvation*)

In their zeal to convert to their Creed (Doctrine), they were spiritually mutilating. Galatians 6:12-13

Philippians 3:3 for we are the true circumcision, - true children of God.

Judaizers said Gentiles had to follow Mosaic Law to be saved **Acts 15:1-35;**

Galatians 2:1-21; 5:1-12

Colossians 2:11 (Regeneration)

True circumcision is the cutting away, removal of sin, declared righteous, and regeneration (New Heart).

True Circumcision Is Manifested In Three Ways:

1. True Circumcision - Right Worship: who worship in the Spirit of God

Genuine worship of God to the child of God is through the Holy Spirit **Romans 8:16**

2. True Circumcision - Right Focus: and glory in Christ Jesus

To continual glory in the finished work of Christ Jesus. **Galatians 6:14**

3. True Circumcision - Right Confidence: and put no confidence in the flesh,

We cannot save ourselves. We cannot merit His love. **Romans 7:18**

Verses 4-6 Religious Pride: Philippians 3:4 confidence

Paul uses it **twice** in **Philippians 3:3**

Philippians 3:5

Paul's 6 Steps To Establish His Human Righteousness:

1. Pride In Ritual: circumcised the eighth day,

This "covenant of circumcision" this was a covenant between God and Israel.

Genesis 17:12; Leviticus 12:3; Deuteronomy 10:16; Colossians 2:11

2. Pride In Respectability: (Position) of the nation of Israel of the tribe of

Benjamin, (Israel – Jacob Genesis 32:28) Benjamin the tribe that gave to Israel her first king, Saul. **Benjamin** the son of Rachel **Genesis 35:17** only son born in Israel.

This tribe was well known for its unwavering loyalty to the throne of David.

John 1:12-13

3. Pride In Race: a Hebrew of Hebrews; Hebrew - "passed over"

It was used to describe those of Abraham's family from foreigners.

(A Jew who follows Hebrew, not Greeks)

4. Pride In Religion: as to the Law, a Pharisee; "separate ones, to separate"

Acts 23:6 "Brethren, I am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; Matthew 23:2

Philippians 3:6

5. Pride In Record: as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; literally "I was so

very zealous that I became a persecutor of the church." **Galatians 1:13; Acts 7-9; 1 Corinthians 15:9**

6. Pride In Righteousness: as to the righteousness which is in the Law,

found blameless. The letter of the law! **Isaiah 64:6; Matthew 23:26**

2. Verses 7-9 Faith And Righteousness:

Change In Values: But whatever things were gain to me,

Paul's Six Steps To Establish His Human Righteousness: Verses 5-6

those things I have counted (Past Tense) Banking term, "To evaluate, to add up!"

loss - word was used of the loss of items from a destroyed ship.
"A ship that threw its cargo overboard."

Philippians 3:8 I count (Present Tense 30 years ago) all things to be loss

value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord

Value of regeneration, new birth

Justification – It was all about right standing with God.

for whom I have suffered the loss of all things,
All of those earthly things

and count them but rubbish – blunt language "*dung, excrement, manure*"

so that I may gain Christ,

Paul's relationship of fellowship with Jesus Christ Forgiven

Philippians 3:9 found in Him, (Justification Past/Penalty Of Sin Wiped Out!)

not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law,
Nothing to show!

Doctrine Of Imputation - "crediting something to a person's account."
but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, "In salvation, our sin and guilt are credited to Christ, and His righteousness is credited to us" **Romans 1:17**

Application:

1. It May Not Be Politically Correct Today, But It Is Biblically Correct Today That A Faithful Minister Declares Truth, But Also Exposes Error.
2. True Circumcision – (Right Worship) - Through The Holy Spirit, (Right Focus) - Glory In Christ Jesus, (Right Confidence) - Put No Confidence In The Flesh.
3. We Are Justified By Faith Alone Apart From Works. **Justified** – Legal term "to declare not guilty, it is the act of God by whereby He declares the believing sinner righteous in Jesus Christ."