

The Believer's Perspective on Profit and Loss ***Philippians 3: 7-11***

I. The Believer's Posted Warning – 3: 1-3

- A. **The Command** (3:1) – “Rejoice in the Lord”
- B. **The Caution** (3:2) – “Beware”
- C. **The Contrast** (3:3) – “For we are the circumcision”
- D. **The Confession of Paul** (3:4-6) – “though I might have confidence in the flesh”

II The Believer's Perspective on Profit and Loss (3: 7-11) – “but...I count**”**

A. A Proper _____ (3:7) – “what things were gain to me these I counted loss”

Only when we are confronted with God's standard of _____ do we really grasp the true depth of our sin (**See Isaiah 6:1-5**; Job 42:5-6; Luke 5:8).

- 1. **Our Past and Present** _____ “what things were gain to me these I counted loss”; “More than that I count all things to be loss ...and do count them but rubbish” (NASB);

Counted Defined:

- 2. **Our Personal** _____ – “not having [possessing] my own righteousness, which is from the law”

B. A Preeminent _____ (3:8-9) – “Christ”

- 1. **A _____ of Christ** – “for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus **my Lord**”

 To know Christ is much more than merely knowing _____. To know Christ is to have a _____ with Him. I cannot know about Jesus Christ through another person's acquaintance with Him. I must know Him for myself. (Jer. 9:23-24; Col. 2:3; Matt.6:21)

- 2. **Greater _____ in Christ**– “that I may gain Christ, and be found in Him”

a.) **To _____ Christ** - “...that I may gain Christ.”

 To gain Christ is not only _____ Him as my _____ but _____ Him as my _____. Paul made it his one aim to grasp the advantage of who Christ was - not only as Saviour, but to see the benefit of Him in every aspect of the walk.

b.) **To be _____ in Him** - “...and be found in Him.”

3. Perfect _____ from God – “*the righteousness which is from God*”

Paul discovered that there were two kinds of righteousness – _____ righteousness vs. _____ righteousness.

 There is one source of righteousness which is _____, and another that is _____. One which is worked for; while the other is a gift. One is the fruit of our own labor; the other is given in response to faith in the person and work of Christ. (Ps 119:137, 142; **Romans 3:21-28**; Romans 5:17; 2 Cor. 5:21; John 19:30)

C. A Positive _____ (3:10)

1. To _____ Him

a.) To Know Him _____ - “*...that I may know Him..*”
(John 17:3; Eph. 1:17-19; 3:19)

 How can the Believer get to know Him more personally? (**See 1 Pet. 2:2-3**; Jer. 15:16)

b.) To Know His _____ - “*...the power of His resurrection..*”
(Eph. 3:16, 20; Col. 1:29; 2 Pet 1:3)

c.) To Know the _____ of His Suffering – “*...the fellowship of His suffering..*”
(2 Cor. 1:5; Phil. 1:29; 1 Pet 4:1; Heb. 4:15)

 **Fellowship:**

 The tried and matured believer knows from _____ that the deepest moments of spiritual fellowship with the living Christ are the direct result of intense suffering.
(Heb. 2:18; 4: 15; James 1:2-6)

2. To be _____ to Him – “*... being conformed to His death..*”
(Rom. 8:29; 2 Cor. 4:11-12)

 **Conformed:**

3. To _____ a Resurrection from the Dead – “*...if by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead..*”

Paul’s great pursuit was to not simply know about Christ, but to know Him personally, intimately, and experientially. There is a vast difference between being acquainted with someone, and actually knowing them intimately. The difference between the two involves spending quality time.

How much time do you invest in getting to know Him through His Word; in talking to Him, and seeking to apply His will in every area of your life?