

- 1 Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith.
- 2 Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved.
- 3 For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort,

- 4 though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more!
- 5 I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law.
- 6 I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

- 7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done.
- 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ
- 9 and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith.

- 10 I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death,
- 11 so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

We put our confidence in:

1) Old Physical Efforts

Jeremiah 4:4

• "Circumcise yourselves to the Lord, circumcise your hearts,"

Romans 2:28-29

• "28 A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. 29 No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person's praise is not from other people, but from God."

- 1) Old Physical Efforts
- 2) Old Heritage and Status

Philippians 3:3b-5a

- We put no confidence in human effort, 4 though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more!
- I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one!"

- 1) Old Physical Efforts
- 2) Old Heritage and Status
- 3) Old Zealous Self

• I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. 6 I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

We put our confidence in:

- 1) Old Physical Efforts
- 2) Old Heritage and Status
- 3) Old Zealous Self

• 1) Whatever happens, rejoice in Christ

• Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith.

Nehemiah 8:10

"...for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

Fate vs Faith

• The difference is Jesus, have faith in Jesus.

- 1) Old Physical Efforts
- 2) Old Heritage and Status
- 3) Old Zealous Self

- 1) Whatever happens, rejoice in Christ
- 2) What Christ had done

• 7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of **what Christ has done**.

- 1) Old Physical Efforts
- 2) Old Heritage and Status
- 3) Old Zealous Self

- 1) Whatever happens, rejoice in Christ
- 2) What Christ had done
- 3) Who Jesus is

Philippians 1:8

• 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus MY Lord.

- 1) Old Physical Efforts
- 2) Old Heritage and Status
- 3) Old Zealous Self

- 1) Whatever happens, rejoice in Christ
- 2) What Christ had done
- 3) Who Jesus is
- 4) Worship by the Spirit of God

• 3 For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort,

Philippians 8b

• For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ

- 1) Old Physical Efforts
- 2) Old Heritage and Status
- 3) Old Zealous Self

- 1) Whatever happens, rejoice in Christ
- 2) What Christ had done
- 3) Who Jesus is
- 4) Worship by the Spirit of God
- 5) Way to experience the resurrection from the dead

• I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

- 1) Old Physical Efforts
- 2) Old Heritage and Status
- 3) Old Zealous Self

- 1) Whatever happens, rejoice in Christ
- 2) What Christ had done
- 3) Who Jesus is
- 4) Worship by the Spirit of God
- 5) Way to experience the resurrection from the dead