

PHILIPPIANS: A GUIDE TO TRUE JOY

Chapter 3:1-9 Righteous in Christ

Speaker: Auke Rienstra



WHERE DOES YOUR JOY DEPEND ON?

Secular research:

- 10% external circumstances
- 50% personality
- 40% mindset



VS. 1: REJOICE IN THE LORD

Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. – Phil. 3:1

Why does Paul so often remind the Philippians to do this?



What do you do to gain Gods acceptance?

Survey with 7.000 church go-ers:

“the way to be accepted by God is to try sincerely to live a good life”

➤ 60% agreed

Religion says: “do”

Christianity says: “done”



VS. 2-6 RELIGION KILLS YOUR JOY IN THE LORD

Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:



VS. 2-6 RELIGION KILLS YOUR JOY IN THE LORD

circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.



VS. 2-6 RELIGION KILLS YOUR JOY IN THE LORD

- Vs 2: watch out for the religious dogs
- Vs 3: our hearts need the circumcision
‘The heart of the problem is the heart’
- vs 4-6: if anyone could boast in his own flesh it would have been Paul himself: he was a religious Giant!



VS. 7-9 JESUS IS THE JOY OF THE WORLD

But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith



VS. 7-9 JESUS IS THE JOY OF THE WORLD

- Paul counts it all as loss, rubbish, dung, garbage
- Why?
 - Because of the surpassing worth of gaining and knowing Christ!
 - Is Christ also your treasure for which you would sell everything?
- To gain a righteousness through Christ alone and through faith alone



RIGHTEOUS IN CHRIST

- We need to repent, not only of our sin, but also of our self righteousness
- Paul only had one word in his CV: Christ!
- We need to rely on Jesus alone!
- Your good or bad deeds cannot change anything about the righteousness of Christ



RIGHTEOUS IN CHRIST

How do you know you've put your trust in Christ?

1. If you have sinned, do you feel any less of a Christian?
2. If you've done some good things, do you feel any more Christian?
3. Do you answer: 'yes I'm a Christian but not a very good one?'

“Righteousness is a gift but it requires your humility”



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