

Losing to Gain Notes

Philippians 3:1-11

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Main Point: A relationship with Christ, not a religious resume, is what makes us righteous.

Watch out for the _____ of others (vs. 2)

1. Peter preached the gospel to Gentiles, and this caused some concern and conflict for those who believed a person needed to become _____ first.
2. It didn't take long for the "Judaizers" to cause the church to have its first doctrinal disagreement in Acts 15.
3. The conclusion of this council was that Gentiles did not have to keep the Jewish law to be _____ (Acts 15:19).
4. But the dissenters were not happy with this decision, so they followed Paul wherever he went, _____ up the churches and pulling people away from the gospel of grace by insisting on the ritual of circumcision.
5. The Philippians were told _____ times to "look out," or perceive with their eyes, by paying close attention to these men.
6. Paul described these false teachers in three strong terms
 - _____ – dirty, despised and diseased scavengers.
 - _____ (Matthew 23:15) – These missionaries of misery may have come across as sincere, but they were sinister.
 - _____ of the flesh – Paul used a play on words to show these men, who preached circumcision as a requirement for salvation, were mutilating the message of the Gospel.
7. They were _____ to the Gospel, which always leads to a false gospel.
8. "We are the circumcision."
 - _____ are "the circumcision." In a spiritual sense, every Christian has been circumcised in his heart.
 - A Christian "worships by the _____ of God."
 - A Christian focuses on the "_____ in Christ."
 - A Christian determines to "put no confidence in the _____."

Weigh your accomplishments against _____ (vs. 4-6)

1. Paul's accomplishments (Wil Pounds outline).
 - Right ritual – circumcised on the eighth day.
 - Right relationship – He was from the spiritual stock traced through Jacob.
 - Right respectability – he was from the tribe of Benjamin.
 - Right race – both parents were Jewish.
 - Right religion – he was a Pharisee.
 - Right reputation – he was a zealot for what he believed.

- Right righteousness – he kept the legal, ceremonial, and moral aspects of the Mosaic Law.
2. If anyone had reason to hope they would make it based on their birth and background, along with their “goodness,” it was Paul.
 3. However, as good as he thought he was, he knew he didn’t _____ up.
 4. The word “profit” is in the plural, meaning that all the “right” things he had going for him were like _____ on a profit/loss statement.
 5. He took time to “count” what he really had.
 6. This is a mathematical word, meaning to carefully _____ things up.
 7. He recognized all those things he thought as gain were “_____” when compared to knowing Christ.
 8. Weighed against the weightiness of Christ, his good works were _____.
 9. He had accumulated much but saw everything as worthless when compared to the surpassing treasure of Christ.
 10. If you are trusting in your religious resume to get to Heaven, you will never get there because compared to a saving relationship with Christ, your spirituality is like a smoldering stew of sewage, and your good deeds are like rancid garbage.
 11. The word polluted is a translation of the Hebrew word which literally means, “the bodily fluids from a woman’s _____ cycle.”
 12. Our “righteous deeds” are considered by God as _____ as a soiled feminine hygiene product.
 13. “It is not your attitude toward your sins that fouls you up; it’s your attitude toward your own _____.”
 14. It’s only when we count _____ things as garbage will we “gain Christ.”
 15. When we realize we have nothing left but Christ, we will find that _____ is everything we ever needed.
 16. A good thing can become a bad thing if it keeps us away from the _____ thing (Mark 8:36).

Widen your _____ knowledge of Christ (vs. 9)

1. Verses 10-11 establish the two goals of the Christian life: to _____ Christ and to show Christ.
2. The word “know” is experiential, not just intellectual and has the idea of “knowing _____.”
3. When we consider the worthiness of Christ, everything else will become worthless because Jesus is infinitely and incomparably _____!