

SINGLES ALLIANCE

Philippians

Philippians 3:7-10

I. Philippians 3:7

A. **What things [lit. gains] were gain to me- vs. 5-6**

1. Birth privilege
2. Education
3. Social standing
4. Achievements

B. **Gains-** Gr. **kerdos-** *gain, interest-* Paul was banking on these things. He was considering them as gains for himself. He thought that they were gaining him interest from God. God really is not interested in what we can offer Him in the flesh.

C. We often bring things to God that we think will bring His interest in us. Only Christ interests Him.

D. **counted-** Gr. **hegeomai-** *take the lead-* we must make the decision to take our trust away from ourselves- our own assets and place our trust in Christ's assets. We initiate this. If we do not do this we will not experience Christ's assets and power in our lives.

E. **loss-** Gr. **zemia-** *detriment, liability-* perf. tense- Paul realized that all the things He thought were helping Him with God were actually a detriment in His walk with Christ. If his trust was in his birth, education, social connections, and own abilities then he would not look to Christ to live in and through him. We can only experience the riches of Christ when we empty ourselves of ours. Before Paul got saved he had many assets put on his accounting ledger. After he got saved he realized they were really liabilities if he placed his trust in them. So, he moved them over and counted them as liabilities.

1. Christ emptied Himself of His riches in order that He might show us how we can experience the power, riches, and anointing of God. **Phil. 2:7**

2. Everything Jesus did He did by trusting and receiving from the Father. He did everything by the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

3. When Paul trusted in his own education and abilities he got into trouble.

F. **because of Christ-** Paul traded in His assets because of Christ. What Paul got in place of the assets he gave up was Christ. You will

never lose anything as long as you trade them in exchange for Christ and His riches.

G. We need to give over to God all our gifts, talents, strengths, abilities, and finances. In exchange we get Christ and His riches. As long as we consider all our assets as liabilities then God will bless our assets.

1. Paul traded in His vast knowledge of the Bible for Christ
 - a. **1 Cor. 2:2-4** Paul chose not to trust in His own knowledge or abilities in ministering to the Corinthians. He trusted in Christ and experienced God's power for ministry! God obviously used Paul's knowledge of the scriptures powerfully but it was only when it was submitted to God.

H. What are your gifts, strengths, abilities, and assets? Are you willing to trade them in as liabilities to gain Christ and His power? This is where fruitful service and ministry takes place. **ANYTHING positive thing in your life is really a liability if you place your trust in that instead of Christ Himself.**

II. Philippians 3:8

A. **consider all things loss-** Paul made the choice to consider ALL his assets in the natural as liabilities

B. **for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ-** because of the excellency

1. **excellency-** Gr. *huperecho-* *holding a higher place- superiority-* knowing Christ is superior than anything else in our life.
2. **knowledge-** Gr. *gnosis-* *knowing someone in the Bible carries with it the idea of partaking in and receiving from someone.*

C. **count them as dung-** Gr. *skubalon-* *from kuon- dogs; ballo-* *to throw- what is thrown out to the dogs.*

1. Paul had called legalists dogs. Paul said that he considered everything that people count on and prize as dog food. It is what dogs feed on and love to chew on. It is amazing what dogs like to eat! They will even eat dung! I know this because I have two dogs!
2. People feed off off their achievements, success, and the good things people say and think about them. Paul calls all the great things he trusted in and prized so much before he got saved dog food in exchange for knowing Christ and His partaking of His life.

D. **that I might win Christ-** Gr. *kerdaino-* *to gain*

1. You can only gain Christ if you empty your own account.
2. God will wait until you are depleted before we see His gain
 - a. **Judges 7:2**- God told Gideon that he had too many for Him to deliver Israel. Often we have too much trust in our own abilities or resources for God to do anything for us.
 - b. story about lady in singles- She said that she was down to her last \$4000 and was desperate for God to provide for her. I told her that she was not down to zero yet. That is when God loves to provide!
 - c. God waited for the widow at Zerephath to get down to her last meal before she sent Elijah to her. **1 Kings 17:9-12**

III. Philippians 3:9

A. **and be found in Him**- Gr. *heurisko*- *joyful discovery*- *we get the eurika from this word*. We will discover Christ when we let go of self trust and place our trust in Him.

1. When we die **where we are found** will determine our eternal destiny and which judgment we will appear at
2. Those who will are found in Adam will end up in the lake of fire after the Great White Throne Judgment
3. Those found in Christ will appear at the Judgment Seat of Christ and enter in the Kingdom of God

B. **not having my own righteousness**- Gr. *diakiosune*- *the state and condition of being as one ought to be; to meet a judicial standard*

1. imputed- legal decree- right standing- **this is the state of being as you ought to be.**
2. imparted- new birth- made as we ought to be by sharing the nature of God in our spirit- **this is the condition of being as you ought to be**
3. We try to establish our own righteousness when we our own judges or we try to meet a standard we set. We also try to establish the righteousness of other people when we try to live up to their standards. Paul referred to this when he said, touching righteousness which was under the Law, I was blameless. This was in other people's judgment. He met the standards of other people so he thought he was righteous. However, man is not our judge. They cannot confer righteousness upon you! When we do this we make people are gods. This is idolatry. They cannot

declare you are as you ought to be. Only God can do this. If we trust in our works to be as we ought to be then we will find disappointment. All unbelievers no matter how religious will be found to be unrighteous- not meeting the perfect standard of God. It will avail us nothing if we are the righteousness of our self or the righteousness of another person- only the righteousness of God.

4. If we look to other people's approval and try to live up to their standards to get their approval then we are establishing our own righteousness and will achieve a righteousness that is below what God demands. God demands perfect righteousness! We can only receive this righteousness, not achieve it.

5. Imputed righteousness- this brings us into the state of being as we ought to be- this is a judicial decree. This is brought about by **being placed into Christ**. Imparted righteousness brings us into the condition of being as we ought to be. This comes by the implanting of the life and nature of Christ in our spirit at the new birth. This comes about by **Christ being put into us**.

C. **That which is the faith of Christ**- reliance upon and in Christ- We trust in His meeting God's perfect standard in our behalf

D. **The righteousness which is of God by faith**- Jesus Christ is as He ought to be. Because we are in Him we share His state of being as He ought to be before the judge of the universe- God Himself. Because Christ Jesus is in us by His Spirit and we are united with Him we share His nature and life. His nature and life have become our new nature and life. This brings us into the condition of being as we ought to be.

1. We will see righteousness transform our soul and actions when we stop trying to become righteous by our efforts and start drawing upon the nature of Christ by faith.

2. **Galatians 2:20**- the life I live in the flesh, I live by trusting in Christ who is loving me and giving Himself to me. When we realize that we are connected to the vine of Christ and that Christ is continually giving to us His nature then we can accept it by faith and see that nature manifest in and through us. We must acknowledge His presence within us and that He is constantly giving Himself to us. We are no longer to try to duplicate God's life, but simply rest and trust in His life being given to us non stop. We

draw upon this flow by faith and when we release our faith- words and actions.

3. Learning to walk in His life or the Spirit takes time and is a process. It is much like a coffee machine. The water has to percolate through the coffee beans and filter and drop into the coffee pot. The water is the life of Christ. Our soul is the coffee beans and filter. The pot is our body and actions. It takes awhile for His nature to work percolate through our soul. The coffee beans are like our unique blend of personality. When the life of God hits our personality then we get to experience a unique flavor of God. God created us to flow through us to give us a unique aspect or flavor of Himself that only can be experienced through us.

IV. Philippians 3:10

A. **that I might know Him-** Gr. **ginosko-** *to progressively come to know by experience*

1. knowing Christ is the foundation for the Christian life- not knowing about Christ, but knowing Him personally.

2. as we have Christ revealed to us then we can draw upon Him to be that in us- as He is so are we in this world. If we do not know how He is, we cannot be in this world

3. the word ginosko reveals that this is a progressive thing and not an instantaneous thing.

B. A very subtle and dangerous thing is happening in Christendom. People are gaining knowledge about the Lord but are not knowing Him. This is causing us to have a form of godliness but lacking the power and life that produces authentic Christianity.

C. Song of Solomon 1:7

1. Most are content to feed from Christ's companions instead of Christ Himself

2. When we live off second hand revelation then we have a veil on our face- we will be separated from His transforming presence.

3. We must find where He is feeding Himself and come and eat

D. Song of Solomon 3:1-4

1. We cannot truly find Christ lying upon our bed watching TV.

Christ will not be discovered in a casual way. We must arise to our knees and seek God by prayer and meditation of the Word.

2. Many are going to the watchmen- ministers to find Christ. They are to point us to Christ Himself.

3. We find Christ just beyond the watchmen. We must find Him our self and not just hear about Him.

E. and the power of His resurrection

1. We will only experience His resurrection life and power when we come to know Him personally and draw from Him

F. and the fellowship of His sufferings

1. If you will live like this you will be persecuted and attacked.

G. made conformable to His death- Gr. summorphoo- to be morphed together

1. This speaks of an exchange where we progressively lose our old ways of believing, thinking, and acting as we count upon our co-death with Christ on the cross.

2. We can only experience new resurrection life when we are prepared to let the old go.