

KNOWING JESUS CHRIST IS WORTH IT

Philippians 3:1-11

April 14, 2024 Pastor Trevor Cooper

Good morning Church! We will start in chapter 3 this morning looking at 11 verses that reveal the Priceless Worth of Knowing Christ Jesus as Lord. We read that Paul uses the word "Finally" in verse 1 to give an encouraging transition in his letter to the Philippian Church. Paul cannot say it enough to "rejoice in the Lord".

Philippians 3:1-11

"Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. 2 Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. 3 For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh—4 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:

5 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; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

8 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 9 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—10 that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead."

1. FAITH in Jesus Christ ALONE Brings God PLEASURE and Priceless JOY. (v 1-2)

"For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast." **Ephesians 2:8-9**

- God GIVES us the faith REQUIRED to please Him.
- "Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are standing firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel" **Philippians 1:27**
 - Faith is NECESSARY to stand AGAINST false teaching of the Bible.

2. KNOWING Jesus Christ as LORD Produces WORSHIP Toward God's WORTHINESS. (v 3-7)

- Worship means to give <u>RESPECTFUL</u> Spiritual <u>SERVICE</u>
- Spirit means from the inner <u>HEART ATTITUDE</u> of a person
- Rejoice means to boast with <u>JOY</u>
- Flesh means human ABILITIES or ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Paul as unbeliever in v 4-6:

- Paul was CIRCUMCISED.
- Paul came from the tribe of BENJAMIN.
- Paul was a PHARISEE.
- Paul was a PERSECUTOR of the Church.
- Paul was PRIDEFUL.

3. Having <u>CONFIDENCE</u> in Jesus Christ <u>SURPASSES</u> Everything Else In <u>LIFE</u>. (v 8-11)

- Christ is the OBJECT of faith.
- Faith alone is <u>DEAD</u>, but linked to Christ and his work brings <u>SALVATION</u>.

It is worth letting all these other things go for the sake of knowing Jesus Christ my Lord! We identify with Jesus in His suffering and in His resurrection as Christians. As stated in the hymn, "Because He lives, I can face tomorrow, Because He lives, all fear is gone. Because I know, He holds the future. And Life is worth the living just because He lives" Repent, Believe and Baptized.

Salvation through Jesus Christ

The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. The Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Christ gives us eternal life by grace through faith"... it is a gift of God. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead YOU WILL BE SAVED. The Bible says to REPENT of your sins. BELIEVE in Jesus receiving His forgiveness. Then, identify with Christ and start living a new life in obedience to God by being BAPTIZED.