

DAILY READING PLAN

Week of November 6, 2022

No Matter What: Hope

Philippians 3:4-11



Day #1 – Read Philippians 3:4-11 | 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! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault. I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 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 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. 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!

Have you ever found yourself doing something so that God would love you? Where do you think that comes from in your life? Your past understanding of God and you or present understanding of God and you?

Day #2 –Read Philippians 3:4-6 | 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! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

In Philippians 3 Paul lets his readers know of his credentials as a Pharisee. Why would he do that? Does that give him credibility with you? What does it mean to obey “the law”? How does that affect your relationship with God?

Day #3 – Philippians 3:8 | *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.*

What is a “good Christian”? Do you ever say that about anyone? What do you mean by that term?

Day #4 –Read Philippians 3:9 | *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.*

When Paul refers to God making us right through faith in Philippians 3:9, where does that faith come from? Have you ever realized that you already have “enough” faith?

Day #5 –Read Philippians 3:10 | *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.*

The death Paul refers to in Philippians 3 verse 10 is not a physical death, but a death of your false self. What are some of the ways you can put to death your false self?