



## “JOY in Righteousness” Philippians 3:1-11

Most people think the Christian message is an invitation to be religious (moralism: get your act together, do good works, obey the 10 commandments, etc.) rather than entering into the most soul satisfying and life liberating relationship you'll ever know. Paul shows us in this text from his own life that there is a major difference between being religious (works righteousness) and having a relationship with God (faith righteousness).

This topic is so important that we need to be reminded of it over and over again. v1 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you.

### What is Works Righteousness? vv2-6

- It is confidence in what I do (performance) or what I have (Possessions) or what people think (popularity). vv2-3; Luke 15:11-32
- It is a validating performance record (resume). vv4-6; Gen3

### What is Faith Righteousness? vv7-9

- It is confidence in what Christ has done, what I have in Him, and what He thinks of me. v7; Eph6:14
- Everything is worthless compared to the priceless gain of Christ. v8
- It's ours through faith in Christ. v9; Eph2:8-9

## How Do I Know I Have a Faith Righteousness? vv10-11

You will have a magnificent obsession with... (Matt13:44)

- Knowing Him v10a; John17:3
- Becoming Like Him v10b; Rom8:11
- Suffering for Him v10c; 1Pet4:12-13
- Being with Him for all eternity v10d-11; 1Cor15:54-55

### Growing Notes

- 1) Why do you think most people hear the Christian message as an invitation to be religious rather than entering into the most soul satisfying and life liberating relationship you'll ever know? What is the difference between irreligion, religion, and a relationship with God?
- 2) Read Philippians 3:1-11. What stands out to you from this text? What is the big idea of this text and what is the writer saying about the big idea? Why do you think this is such an important topic that it needs to be repeated over and over again (v1)?
- 3) What is works righteousness (vv2-6)? How does Paul make a contrast between being religious and having a relationship with God (v2)? How does the 1<sup>st</sup> point describe both religious (moral conformity: follow the rules) and irreligious (self-discovery: follow your heart) people (Luke 15:11-32? Everyone has a resume (VPR). How do inordinate emotions help to identify your resume?
- 4) What is faith righteousness (vv7-9)? A Christian is someone who recognizes that God gives you the perfect resume (2Cor5:21). Explain. What has Christ done for you, what do you have in Him and what does He think of you? Do you feel like Paul does about his resume in Christ (vv7-9)?
- 5) How do I know I have a faith righteousness (vv10-11)? How is being a Christian having a magnificent obsession with a heavenly treasure beside which everything else in life is of little value (Matt13:44)? Review the four points under this Magnificent Obsession. Which one(s) are strengths and which one(s) growth areas for you? Pray.

