

Philippians 3: 7 - 12

Solid Rock Church

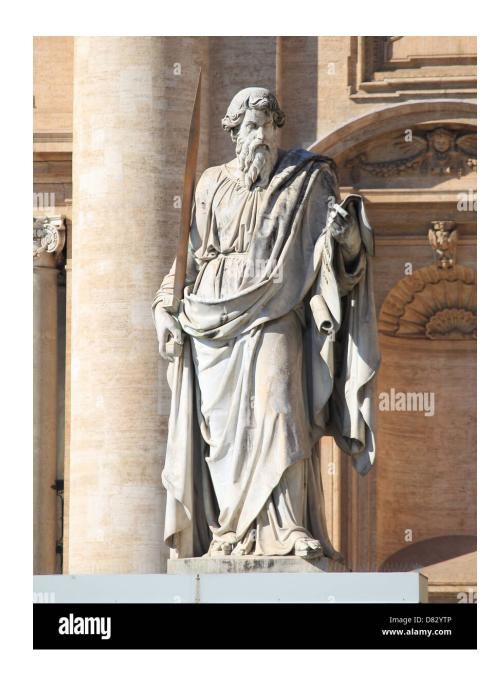
Pastor Elliott Anderson

Life With... and Without...

Harder to live without resources – if previously you had many Tougher to live with disease – if previously healthy Sadder to be divorced - if previously happily married More challenging to live with doubt - if once you had faith

But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ Philippians 3:7-8

Paul's Gains and Losses



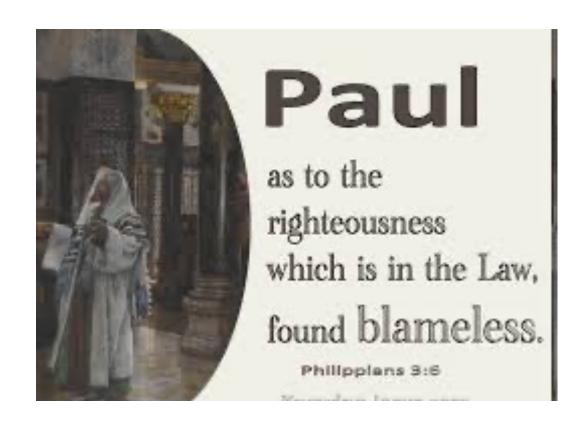
Paul's Background His Gains

Born in Tarsus (Asia Minor) around 5 AD

Roman citizen (Acts 22:28)

Latin, Greek, + Aramaic (Acts 21:40)

Studied at "feet of" Gamaliel (Acts 22:3)



Paul's Gains Philippians 3: 4 - 6

If anyone else has mind to put to confidence in the flesh, I far more: circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church...

Pharisee Background

Sect developed (420 BC to 20 AD) in response to secularization in Israel

Zealous for the Law; believed in the Messiah and the resurrection

Any Jewish male could try, but the discipline required was extreme.

(6,000 / 2,000,000)



Pharisee Roles

Detailed interpretation of the Torah, written and oral law
High education and learning but they had other main jobs
Engaged in study / teaching / debates in the Synagogue
Held positions within the Sanhedrin (Jewish governing council)
They were not a political party, nor paid for their role

Paul the Angry Pharisee

When he heard about "the Way," the followers of Jesus, he unleashed his fury against them. (Philippians 3: 6)

Departing from the counsel of his mentor, Gamaliel, Paul jailed many men and women disciples of Jesus (Acts 8:3)

Paul voted for their executions and compelled them to blaspheme (<u>Acts 26:10–11</u>)

Paul's Losses: Philippians 3: 7 - 8

But whatever gain I had I counted **as loss** for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count **everything as loss** because of the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus Christ 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.



Paul's Lost Pharisaical Privileges

Status and leadership

Consistent role, home, people

Earned righteousness, pride, ego, respect, influence

Paul's Other Losses: Health, Safety, Security, Freedom

2nd Cor 11: 23 – 27 ... I have been in prison more frequently, flogged more severely, exposed to death all the time. 5X the Jews whipped me 39 lashes. 3X I was beaten with rods. Once I was stoned. 3X I was shipwrecked... I have been in danger from rivers, bandits, my fellow Jews, and Gentiles; in danger in the city, in the country, and at sea; and in danger from false believers. I have labored and toiled and gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and gone without food; I have been cold and naked.

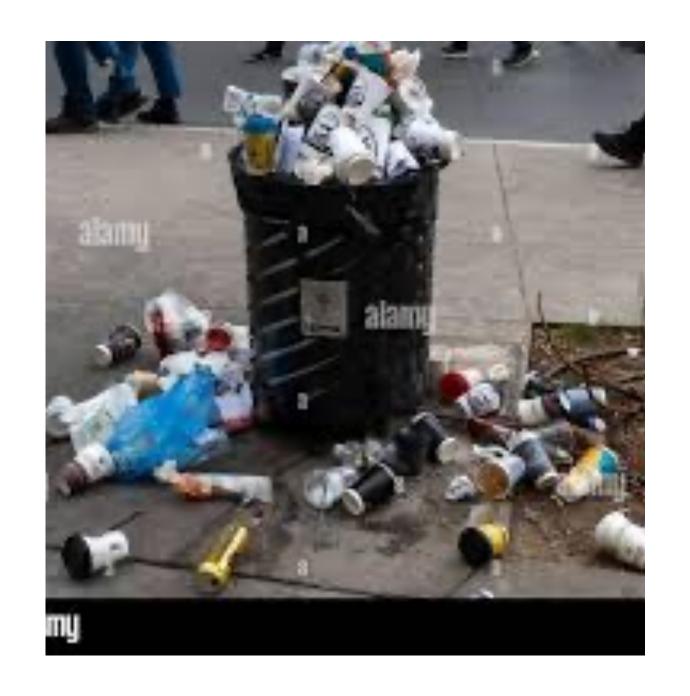
Paul's Trash: Philippians 3: 7 - 8

But whatever gain I had I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Jesus Christ 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.

Rubbish: Skubalon in Greek

Rubbish – garbage Only time used in NT

Literal translation is "dung" or "manure"



Paul's Life Without / With Jesus

Without Jesus

Reputation and Respect

Status and Security

Wealth and Independence

Adherence to the Law

(Loss – Rubbish)

With Jesus

Recluse and a Renegade

Suffering and Imprisonment

Wisdom and Dependence

Obedience to Christ

(Gain – Treasure)

The Spiritual Balance Sheet

Philippians 3:4-6

Me

Relying on Religion (3:4-6)

- Religious rituals like circumcision, baptism, ceremonies, disciplines
- Born into a religious family heritage
- Zealous to follow the rules of organized religion
- Human righteousness
 good works etc.

Christ

Relying on Christ (3:3)

- "... who glory [boast]
 in <u>Christ Jesus</u> and
 who put <u>no</u>
 confidence in the
 flesh (externals) (3:3)
- May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus
 Christ. (Galatians 6:13,14)



Paul's Gain (Find): Knowing Christ

3: 8, ...all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord

3: 10, that I may know Jesus and the power of His resurrection

The Treasure of Jesus Christ



Proverbs 2: 4 – 5, ...understand the fear of the Lord and the knowledge of God – is our hidden treasure

Colossians 2: 2 - 3, ... Christ Himself, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge

CHRISTIAN PERSPECTIVE

PEOPLE COME TO FAITH THROUGH BIBLE READING & CHURCH







Philippians 3: 9 - 11

....count them but rubbish in order that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

GOD MADE HIM WHO HAD NO SIN TO BE SIN FOR US, SO THAT IN HIM WE MIGHT BECOME THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD.

- 2 Corinthians 5:21 -



Imputed Righteousness of Christ

Imputed = something attributed (given) to someone without cost
to the receiver

Not earned – It's by our faith - not our words / behavior

Gift of God – It's the righteousness of Jesus given to us

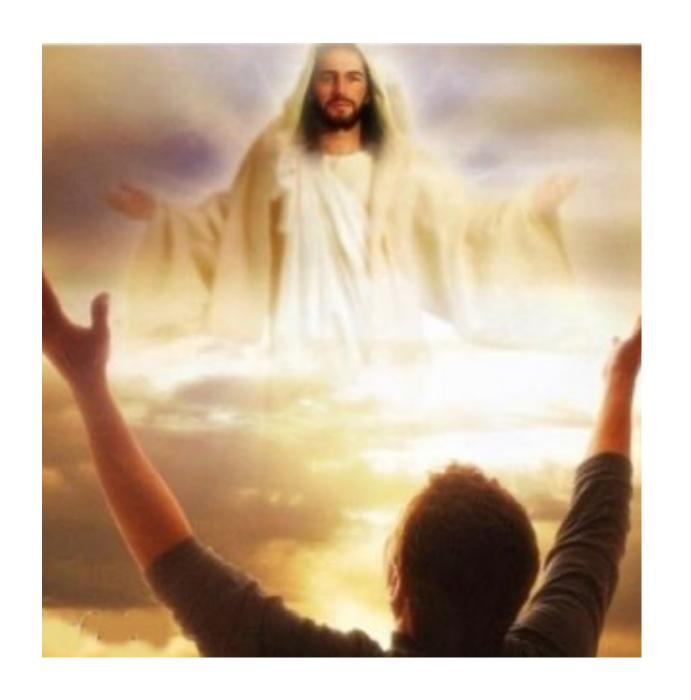


Righteousness by Faith

Romans 10: 17, ... faith comes from hearing the Word of God

Hebrews 11: 3, By faith we understand that the universe was created by the Word of God...

Hebrews 11: 6, And without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him.



Righteousness by Faith

Hebrews 12: 2, Looking to Jesus, the founder and perfector of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross...

Pharisee Righteousness vs Disciple Righteousness

Pharisee Righteousness

Disciple Righteousness

Position and Piety

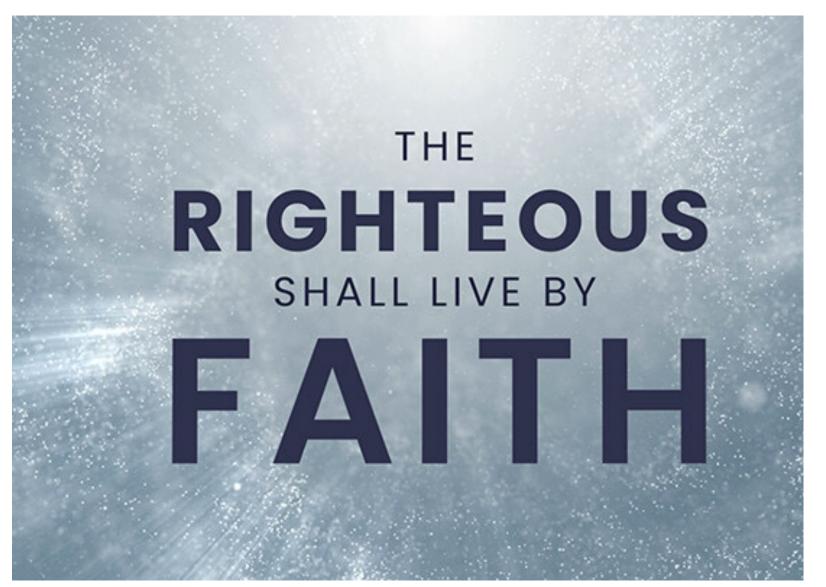
Devotion and Faith

Recognition and Privilege

Humility and Peace

Right before man, then God

Right before God, then man



Galatians 3: 11, Now no one is justified by the Law before God... for "The righteous man shall live by faith."

Romans 1: 17, ...the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; ... "The righteous man shall live by faith."

Lost and Found

Luke 15 Parables



Lost and Found Parables

Lost Sheep: Man loses 1 of 100 sheep, goes after the 1, finds it and rejoices with a party with family and friends

Lost Coin: Women loses 1 of 10 silver coins, searches frantically, finds it, rejoices with family and friends

Lost and Found Parable 1st Two End the Same

In the same way, there will be more joy in heaven over one who repents, than over 99 righteous persons who don't need to repent

In the same way, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.

Lost and Found Parable The Lost Son

Younger of 2 sons asks his dad for his inheritance – leaves home – and wastes it all immediately.

Famine hits the land; the prodigal son has no money or home – lives amongst the pigs – comes to his senses...

Lost and Found Parable The Found Son

Prodigal humbles himself and returns home. His father sees him in the distance and runs to him. The son apologizes and the father throws an enormous party for all family and friends.

Luke 15: 24, this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again, he was lost, and has been found...