

A fountain pen with a wooden barrel and a silver nib lies diagonally across a piece of white paper. In the top left corner, a small glass ink bottle with a label is partially visible.

The Righteousness of Christ

Philippians – A Brief Review

- Paul writes the Philippians from prison
- 3 Major themes in Letter:
 - Joy (16 variations mentioned)
 - Together/unity (16 variations mentioned)
 - The Gospel... The main issue
- Last week
 - Paul commends Timothy and Epaphroditus and sends them to Philippi
 - Paul anticipates a good report from them that will give him joy

Philippians

3:1-11

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Philippians 3:1-11

¹ Further, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you. ² Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, those mutilators of the flesh. ³ For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— ⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more:

Philippians

3:1-11

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Philippians 3:1-11

- ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.
- ⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ 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
3:1-11*

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Philippians 3:1-11

⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

Philippians
3:1-11

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The Righteousness of Christ

Watch Out!

- A Safeguard
 - Markers & reminders
 - Sermons and more sermons
 - Instructing our children

Philippians

3:1-11

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Watch Out!

- A Safeguard
- Watch out for the dogs!
 - Name-calling in the Bible?
 - Primarily reserved for false teachers and religious people bent on perverting the gospel
 - Jesus to the Pharisees... hypocrites, blind guides, whitewashed tombs, snakes, vipers (Matt 23)
 - Peter to false teachers... brute beasts, arrogant, exploiters, blots and blemishes, an accursed brood

Philippians

3:1-11

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The Righteousness of Christ

Watch Out!

- A Safeguard
 - Watch out for the dogs!
 - Name-calling in the Bible?
1. Dogs
 - Scavengers of refuse
 - Unclean
 - Carriers of infectious diseases
 - Paul referring to the “Judaizers” who would follow him around and confuse the believers

Philippians

3:1-11

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Watch Out!

- A Safeguard
- Watch out for the dogs!
 - Name-calling in the Bible?
 1. Dogs
 2. Evildoers
 - Taught that you needed both faith in God and obedience to the Law in order to have salvation
 - Responsible for perverting the gospel into a Law-based human effort – deceived new converts

Philippians

3:1-11



The Righteousness of Christ

Watch Out!

- A Safeguard
- Watch out for the dogs!
 - Name-calling in the Bible?
 1. Dogs
 2. Evildoers
 3. Mutilators
 - Preached to new converts that they first had to become Jews before they could become Christians
 - Insisted that converts must be circumcised
 - Circumcision of the heart... not a new concept (Deut 30:6)

Philippians

3:1-11

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Deuteronomy 30:6

⁶ The LORD your God will circumcise your hearts and the hearts of your descendants, so that you may love him with all your heart and with all your soul, and live.

- It was God's desire from the start that the true evidence of his people belonging to him would be their hearts bent toward him resulting in love for him

Philippians
3:1-11

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Watch Out!

- A Safeguard
- Watch out for the dogs!
 - Name-calling in the Bible?
 - Characteristics of Religious People
 - Concerned with outward appearance
 - Confidence in the flesh (boast in the wrong things)
 - Major on unimportant issues
 - Compare themselves to their own standards or to others less moral than they are instead of to God's standards
 - Based on my own righteousness (pride & blindness)

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3:1-11

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Watch Out!

Losing Your Religion

- Paul's credentials are pretty much unbeatable in the world of religion yet he considers it all "loss" for the sake of Christ
- Language (profit, loss, gain) is financial
 - Spiritual audit... how often do you take time to evaluate where your priorities and values are?
 - Consumed by things of this world or Jesus?
 - How valuable is knowing Christ to you?
 - The treasure in the field & pearl of great price

Philippians

3:1-11

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Matthew 13:44-46

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field. ⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant looking for fine pearls. ⁴⁶ When he found one of great value, he went away and sold everything he had and bought it.

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Watch Out!

Losing Your Religion

The Righteousness of Christ

- We are spiritually bankrupt
- We bring nothing to the table
 - God's standard is perfection
 - Our acceptance is not based on our resume, heritage, knowledge, or our own goodness or righteousness but rather on our repentance and God's love and grace extended to us
 - We trade filthy rags for Christ's righteousness

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3:1-11

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Jim Elliot

“He is no fool to give what he cannot keep to
gain what he cannot lose”

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Living the Gospel

- Guarding the Gospel
 - Be careful who influences you
 - Name-calling
- There's a Pharisee lurking in your heart
 - Putting your religion/pride to death
 - Boasting in Jesus
- Living the Gospel
 - Christ is your life... taking on his righteousness
 - Our confidence is in Jesus alone

Philippians

3:1-11