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How Will You Live?

Paul: God does not need
Partners, He needs Servants

Phil 3:3-11

TRUTH: God needs a humble heart
and one ready to serve Him where
He leads.

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³ For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, ⁴ 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! ⁵ 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 strict obedience to the Jewish law. ⁶ I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault.

A Partner, Not a Christ Follower

1. A partner tries to please God through works, 3:4
2. A partner condemns those who do not follow the rules, 3:6
3. A partner gages his or her spiritual maturity on self-righteousness, 3:9

⁷ I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 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

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⁹ 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. 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, ¹¹ so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead!

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A Servant of Christ

1. Acknowledges that works will not and cannot save a person, 3:7, 9a
2. A servant knows Christ personally and expresses Christ's love to others, 3:8-9
3. A servant operates under God's power and gages spiritual maturity by a transformed life, 3:10-11

BOTTOM LINE

A servant of Christ knows Him personally, serves Him faithfully, and lives a transformed life with assurance of a heavenly home with Christ for eternity.

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