



## Which is Better, Life With or Without Jesus?

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“Drinking beer is easy. Trashing your hotel room is easy. But being a Christian, that's a tough call. That's real rebellion. Sex, drugs and rock ‘n’ roll is easy. True Christianity ... that's rebellion.”

- Alice Cooper

Philippians 3:1-14 (ESV)

“Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you.

Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people 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; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 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 Christ Jesus 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 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

## Why is life with Jesus worth it?

### 1. You personally know Jesus Christ.

Philippians 3:8 (ESV)

“I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.”

### 2. Your standing before God is based on Christ, not you.

Romans 3:22 (NIV)

“This righteousness is given through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe.”

Philippians 2:12 (NIV)

“Just as if I had always obeyed”

Faith + **Works** = justification

Grace + **Merit** = justification

Christ + **My inherent righteousness** = justification

Faith alone, Grace alone, Christ alone = justification

Ephesians 2:8 (ESV)

“For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God”

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NKJV)

“For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.”

### 3. Your purpose is greater than earthly comforts.

Philippians 3:10, 13 (NKJV)

“that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death... But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.”

Matthew 16:26 (NIV)

“What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul?”