

**WHAT DO WE
REALLY WANT?**

Corporate Public realities
Are the direct result of
Private Personal Devotion!

SPIRIT... GIVES BIRTH TO... SPIRIT!

THE 'SOUL' CAN PRODUCE
CHURCH EXPERIENCES
THAT ARE... **IMPRESSIVE! BUT...**
Lifeless... Transformation-less...
FAKES!

It can walk like a duck...
Quack like a duck...
BUT IT'S NOT... A DUCK!

We can walk like a church...
We can quack like a church...
BUT
***IT ISN'T A REAL CHURCH
... UNLESS JESUS BUILDS IT!***

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2 Peter 1

Grace and peace...
and **EVERYTHING** having to do
with life and godliness...

MULTIPLIES...

As we...

GET TO KNOW...

JESUS...

BETTER!

Phil 3.1-15 - Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord.

*Rejoice... IN... THE... **LORD!!!!***

Not in family.

Finances. Career fulfillment.

Healing.

Ministry development!

Destiny and Calling.

*IN... THE... **LORD!!!!***

'JESUS'
IS MY PASSION!
'JESUS'
MAKES MY HEART BEAT FASTER!

For me to write the same things to you *is* not tedious, but for you *it is* safe. ² Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation! ³ For **WE** are the circumcision, who **worship God[1] in the Spirit,**

[A hired servant or laborer]

rejoice [2] in Christ Jesus,

REJOICE:

To boast proudly –

Lit. To lift up the head high.

To walk with a swagger!

and have **[3] no confidence in the flesh,**

CONFIDENCE: PEI'THO:

To be persuaded.

Be convinced... *To believe in...*

SPIRIT DRIVEN... JESUS FOCUSED... FLESH IGNORING
Uncircumcised in OT TEMPLE?

⁴ though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so: ⁵ circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

⁷ But what things were gain to me,

GAIN:

Advantageous. Profitable.

Things I valued because

I THOUGHT they could make my life better!

these I have counted loss for Christ.

LOSS:

They didn't help me.

They hurt me!

I didn't improve because of them.

Life got worse.

In business terms?

I got a bad deal.

⁸ Yet indeed I also count **ALL THINGS** loss

PAS: *Every kind of thing.*

Not just his law-keeping...

but EVERY part of life.

He saw as...

nothing... at all...

compared to the knowledge of Jesus!!

for the **EXCELLENCE** of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord,

EXCELLENCE
Higher. Better than. Supreme.

KNOWING JESUS...
BEATS EVERYTHING ELSE ...HANDS DOWN.
MONEY?
MARRIAGE?
MINISTRY?

KNOWLEDGE: GNO'SIS.

To experientially or functionally know!
Knowledge gained from direct, personal,
first-hand experience!

Applied knowledge
that is only as accurate
as the relationship it's derived from.

The knowledge of Christ
not only surpasses all natural blessings...
but all blessings whatsoever...
to the point that they are not only
considered as nothing...
but **less than nothing** in comparison.

**ANYTHING IN HEAVEN OR ON EARTH...
THAT BECOMES MORE IMPORTANT TO YOU
THAN HE IS...**

SATAN WILL USE AGAINST YOU.

IF THERE'S ONE OTHER
PERSON OR THING
YOU NEED IN LIFE
WHEN YOU GET UP IN THE MORNING
MORE THAN HIM...

THAN YOU'LL BE ALWAYS LOOKING FOR...
THE NEXT EVENT...
THE NEXT OCCASION.

**AM I CLOSER TO IT... HIM OR HER?
AM I WINNING OR LOSING?**

**HOPES UP...
HOPES DOWN...**

SATAN WILL BEAT YOU TO DEATH...
IF YOU PUT THAT BAT IN HIS HANDS.

I'M NOT SAYING

DON'T DO THAT!
I'M SAYING...
***WHY WOULD WE WANT
TO LIVE THAT WAY?***

for whom I have suffered the loss of all things,

BALANCE SHEET:
PROFIT/LOSS BUSINESS LEDGER
One side: all things lost.
Other side: Christ gained.
That's profitable trading.

This can't be
mere theoretical knowledge.

*Theory lies on the surface of our souls
and works no deeper.*

*This is not
the 'concept' or 'idea'
of Christ.*

*This is more than knowing
ABOUT Christ.*

*This is the experiential
impartation of His BEING
... BY POWER...
into our very existence!*

This is worth losing ...
EVERYTHING...FOR!

***Informational knowledge
isn't worth that price.***

Was he talking about having
your doctrine perfect?
A correct creed?

This is the
OPERATIONAL
WORKING...
POWER-BASED
knowledge
of Christ's love.

The love Paul speaks
to the Ephesians about...
... "that **GOES BEYOND** knowledge" ...

IT REQUIRES
THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
BEFORE IT CAN EVEN EXIST!!

IT TAKES...
RAW POWER...
AS IT'S **STARTING** POINT...

... That has the effect
of filling us up
*with all the **fullness** of God Himself!*
This knowledge of Christ...
Isn't
A concept or idea of Him.

NO!

It's
Experiencing
Relationship
with Him!!

*Can we know marriage
without being married?*

Know wine
without tasting it?

*Can a color-blind person
really know a rainbow
from a description?*

We're talking about
knowing a Person.

To know **ABOUT** somebody
is one thing.

Knowing them
by living , experiencing...
and walking through life with them...
is another.

PAUL'S POINT?

**TO DEEPEN THIS KIND OF
EXPERIENTIAL KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST
IS THE WORTHIEST AIM
OF ANY LIFE.**

THIS...

ONE...
THING...
I...
WANT!!!!

**THERE ARE 2 'LAWS' REGARDING THIS
EXPERIENTIAL 'LOVE-RELATIONSHIP'
WITH GOD:**

1. *GOD INSURES
THAT THE CONTEXT AND OCCUPATION
OF EVERY LIFE ON EARTH...
IS SUITABLE TO...
COMPLIMENTARY WITH...
SUPPORTIVE OF...
**YOUR RELATIONSHIP-BUILDING
POTENTIAL...
WITH HIM!***

2. **LIKE A COAT
WARMS AND PROTECTS YOU
FROM THE COLD IN WINTER...**

***THIS RELATIONSHIP WITH HIM...
SUPPLIES YOU WITH TWO THINGS:***

A] WISDOM [*WHAT TO DO*]
B] STRENGTH [*THE WHEREWITHAL TO DO IT*]

*THAT MEANS THAT
THE CONTEXT OF YOUR LIFE
WHATEVER THAT IS
BECOMES TOTALLY IRRELEVANT TO*

*YOUR CONQUERING...
OVERCOMING... AND
REIGNING IN
THE MIDDLE OF IT.*

and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ

**RUBBISH: SKU'BALON:
*Refuse. Dregs. Dung. Garbage.
SEWAGE!***

⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection,

As we 'know' Christ...
who is Himself '**RISEN**'
[and living a **RESURRECTED** life]...

then his **RISEN-NESS...**
affects and 'breathes'
an element into our lives...
that otherwise wouldn't be there.

His **RESURRECTION...**
gets imparted into our experience...
not just in theory or principle...
but in power.

His **RISEN** life
enters into the
mixture, quality, and texture
of our own lives
almost like a 'leaven'.

It **'ENLIVENS AND RAISES'** life as we know it.

Our **'RESURRECTED-NESS'...**
actually calls us **UPWARD**
and frees us from
'earth-bound' limitations

This experiential union
with the **RESURRECTED** Christ
brings our life into an
ever-increasing similarity
*with his own **RESURRECTED** likeness.*

and the fellowship of His sufferings,

POWER FIRST...
THEN SUFFERING...
THEN DEATH.
Is the order correct???

Knowing the resurrection power
is required
to enable us to follow him
*through the suffering and death...**WITH JOY!***

being conformed to His death,

He paid in full
what we don't have to pay at all.

Payment and punishment for our sins
was completed in his sacrifice.
We can add nothing to it.

BUT

...as his resurrection
*became a pattern and model
for our own daily experience...*

in the same way...
his sufferings and death
also
*are a pattern and model
for our own daily experience...*

OUR SEPARATION FROM...
AND BATTLE WITH...
SIN...
THE FLESH...
AND THE WORLD.

We have died with Christ.
This happened as we first believed.

But the application of that death
is still being worked out in our experience.

Daily we die with him.
Daily we are also raised with him!

11 **if, by any means**, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

ATTAIN:
Arrive at.

Could be referring to
arriving at a resurrected life-style...
in this world!

OR... IT COULD **ALSO** HAVE
A SECONDARY APPLICATION...

That the ultimate
resurrection of our bodies
with subsequent rewards for believers...

is also attained to...or...
ARRIVED AT...
*By our developing knowledge of Christ
this side of it.*

There will be more glory ...**THEN...**
for those who have 'gained Christ'
to a greater degree....

NOW...

And less for those who don't.

"That they may have a better resurrection"
applies to us.

Resurrection will be **MIND-BLOWING**
for the very least prepared among us.

Grace will be liberally shared by all.
But it won't be the same for all.
Some will have a greater resurrection.
Some? Not as great!

Our resurrection THEN...
is being prepared for **NOW...**

The more of Christ we 'gain' here...
along with the more of this world we 'lose' here...
will be reflected by
the glory of Christ
that will be revealed in us
on that day.

¹² Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected;

TELIO'O:

Reached the end of the race.
To bring a process to its end.

but I **PRESS** on,

DIO'KO: Rushing forward with all speed...
aggressively, earnestly
pursuing to overtake.
It's a race...
A chase...
A hunt!

that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

LAY HOLD OF [in both cases]:

KATALAMBANO:

Intensified form of 'aggressive seizure'.
Arrest or capture.

GOD'S PURPOSE BECAME PAUL'S.
GOD'S AIM IN GRASPING PAUL
BECAME PAUL'S AIM
IN BEING THE ONE GRASPED.

Forgiveness... being born again...
are only the 'opening of a door'
to further glories.

GOD LAYING HOLD OF US...

IS NOT
THE END GAME!

'REACHING FORWARD' ...
AND...
"PRESSING ON" ...

ARE OUR
APPROPRIATE REACTIONS
TO HIS GRIP ON US!

He grips! We react!

But our reaction
is not automatic or accidental.

It is deliberate. A choice!

"I...LAY...HOLD...OF"
what I was laid hold of for!!

13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended;
but one thing *I do*,

THIS...
ONE...
THING...
I...
DO!!!

Every arrow we shoot in life
*that doesn't hit **THIS** mark...*
KNOWING JESUS BETTER...
has been shot in vain.

Every morning we have one goal:
Knowing Jesus better!

FOCUS! AIM!
JUST ONE THING!!
ONLY ONE THING!!

Not many things.
LASER-FOCUSED!

A pin-point
Concentration of effort!

forgetting those things which are behind .
and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

EPIKTEI'NO:

*Intensified form of stretching.
Straining intensely
forward or toward something.*

14 I press toward the goal for the prize

****HUSKIES**

An Olympic race [1 Cor 9]

"Run to win!"

"Strict training and discipline"

"Not uncertain... not beating the air"

"I buffet my body and make it my slave!"

THIS PRIZE

*Is prepared and fought for
With intensive force:*

FINDING OUT

DISCOVERING

EXPLORING

INVESTIGATING

UNCOVERING

MORE ABOUT JESUS...

Is not

a casual stroll in the park!

IT'S WHAT GOD

SAVED... US... FOR!

of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

THE FINAL BENEFIT [TODAY]

OF KNOWING CHRIST:

Col 2.8-10 - ⁸ Beware lest anyone **CHEAT** you

SULAGOG'E'O: To carry off as prey, a victim... a captive. As spoil or plunder.

*****MONA-"I HATE GETTING RIPPED OFF!"***

through philosophy

PHILOSOPHI'A: PHILOS: A friend. SOPHIA: Wisdom.

Paradigms. Mindsets. Systems of thought.

SOCIALISM

COMMUNISM

TRANS-GENDERISM

EMPTY MINDSETS! PHILOSOPHIES!

EPH 4: 'WINDS OF DOCTRINE'

ON YOUR COMPUTER –
GALE-FORCE WINDS
& HURRICANE-FORCE
DOCTRINES OF DEMONS

and **EMPTY** deceit,

KENOS': Hollow.

DECEIT: A false impression **made by cunning craftiness and trickery!**

according to the tradition of men,

*What gets **passed along**.*

according to the basic principles of the world,

and not **ACCORDING TO** Christ.

*OU **KATA** CHRISTON: Not **out of or down from**... Christ!*

⁹ For in Him dwells **ALL** the **FULLNESS** of the Godhead bodily;

PLE'ROMA: Crammed. Leveled up. Packed full to overflowing. Fully stocked and supplied.

¹⁰ and **YOU... ARE COMPLETE** in Him,

who is the head of all principality and power.

Col 2.8-10 - ¹⁹ and **NOT HOLDING FAST**

TO THE HEAD, FROM WHOM ALL THE BODY, nourished and knit together

FROM: EK. Out of. Suggesting interior to exterior. Originating from. Being the treasury.

THERE'S **ONLY ONE** JESUS!
HE'S A VERY REAL PERSON...
AND THERE'S **ONLY ONE** OF HIM!

BY THE SPIRIT:
Toe... directly linked. No mediator.
Elbow. Linked.
Intestines. Direct line.

by joints and ligaments,
GROWS
WITH THE INCREASE THAT IS ...FROM ...GOD.

SO...
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HERE'S THE **CATCH!**

THERE'S A **TRICK** TO THIS!

**** WANTS A 'TROPHY-WIFE'**

[DOESN'T REALLY LOVE... HER!]

****SHE'S A 'GOLD-DIGGER'**

[DOESN'T REALLY LOVE... HIM!]

****AUCTIONED OFF ENTIRE ESTATE****

WHY DO THE

PEOPLE OF CROSSOVER

WANT TO KNOW

JESUS BETTER??

SO THAT OUR BODIES ARE HEALED?

SO THAT OUR MARRIAGES ARE HAPPIER?

SO THAT HE BUILDS OUR CHURCH?

OR...

DO THE PEOPLE

OF CROSSOVER...

WANT TO KNOW

JESUS BETTER...

BECAUSE...

THEY WANT TO

KNOW

JESUS
BETTER!

IF SO...

OUR BODIES WILL BE HEALED
OUR MARRIAGES WILL BE HAPPIER
AND JESUS WILL...
BUILD... HIS... CHURCH!

OUR FUTURE DEPENDS
ON THIS QUESTION
BEING ANSWERED
BY EVERY INDIVIDUAL
OF CROSSOVER:

WHAT DO WE
REALLY WANT?

ANSWER?.....???

TO KNOW JESUS
BETTER!!