

JULY 27
2025

PHILIPPIANS

discovering *joy* that endures

Philippians
3:1-11

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The Joy Found in Living by Grace

“There is a joy which is not given to the ungodly, but to those who love God for His own sake, whose joy God himself is. And this is the happy life, to rejoice to Him, of Him, for Him; this it is, and there is no other.”

Augustine of Hippo

SPIRIT LED JOY

Philippians 3:1-4

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.

A person is not a Jew who is one only outwardly, nor is circumcision merely outward and physical. No, a person is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is circumcision of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the written code. Such a person's praise is not from other people, but from God.

Romans 2:28-29

“While the Judaizers (people who insisted that Christians had to obey all the OT ceremonial laws) hold out a promise of spiritual progress through adherence to the rules of the old covenant, Paul holds himself out as an example of someone who knows that real progress consists only in being increasingly conformed to the image of Christ's death and resurrection.”

Sean M. McDonough Philippians, ESV Study Bible

Understand, then, that those who have faith are children of Abraham. Scripture foresaw that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, and announced the gospel in advance to Abraham: “All nations will be blessed through you.” So those who rely on faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith.

Galatians 3:7-9

PAUL'S RIGHTEOUSNESS RESUME

Philippians 3:4-6

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put **confidence** in the flesh, I have more: 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.

Clearly no one who relies on the law is justified before God, because “the righteous will live by faith.”

Galatians 3:11

SELF RIGHTEOUS RUBBAGE

Philippians 3:7-11

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 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.

I thank him who has given me strength, Christ Jesus our Lord, because he judged me faithful, appointing me to his service, though formerly I was a blasphemer, persecutor, and insolent opponent. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am the foremost. But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life.

1 Timothy 1:12-16