

October 28, 2018

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## TIME OF REFLECTION

“We are endlessly in need of God. And what a wonderful thing that is. For He is full of all that we need, moment by moment, forever and ever.”

~Jackie Hill Perry, poet, writer, hip hop artist

“Grace rules out all qualifications by definition. Grace therefore eliminates boasting; it suffocates boasting; it silences any and all negotiations about our contribution before they can even begin. By definition we cannot ‘qualify’ for grace in any way, by any means, or through any action. Thus it’s understanding God’s grace—that is to say, understanding God himself—that demolishes legalism. Grace highlights legalism’s bankruptcy and shows that it’s not only useless; it’s pointless; its life breath is smothered out of it.”

~Sinclair B. Ferguson, Scottish-born theologian and pastor

“You will never glory in God till first of all God has killed your glorying in yourself.”

~C. H. Spurgeon (1834-1892), famed London preacher

“Not only the adoration of images is idolatry, but also trust in one’s own righteousness, works and merits, and putting confidence in riches and power. As the latter is the commonest, so it also is the most noxious.”

~Martin Luther (1483-1546), German reformer

“Perfectionism is a self destructive and addictive belief system that fuels this primary thought: If I look perfect, and do everything perfectly, I can avoid or minimize the painful feelings of shame, judgment, and blame.”

~Brené Brown, researcher and professor of social work

“...there is another kind of righteousness, not a righteousness that he achieved, but a righteousness that he received: that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith.”

~G. Walter Hansen, New Testament scholar on Philippians 3

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## *Worship through the Word*

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**SERMON** – “The Surpassing Value of Knowing Christ” – *Pastor Don Willeman*

**SERMON PASSAGE** – *Philippians 3:1-11 (NASB)*

<sup>1</sup> Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.

<sup>2</sup> Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision; <sup>3</sup> for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh, <sup>4</sup> although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more: <sup>5</sup> circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.

<sup>7</sup> But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

<sup>8</sup> More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, <sup>9</sup> and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, <sup>10</sup> that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;<sup>11</sup> in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.