



Three Indispensable Reminders

Philippians 3:1-11

Would you raise your hand if you've ever forgotten something important? It's important to remember details!

So, have you ever forgotten something important? A birthday, anniversary, special occasion? If so, then you know the power of remembrance! **To remember is to prosper, to forget is to pay!**

Let's apply this to spiritual things.

Remembrance is one of the most important themes in the Bible. The epic event in the OT was the Passover and most of the OT is reminders to remember this (festivals, commands) and the cost of forgetting (defeat, exile). The foremost event in the NT is what Christ has done and most of the NT is to remember (weekly worship, the Lord's Supper). To remember (biblically) is to prosper, to forget is to pay...

Today we're looking at the power of remembrance, and

To remember is to prosper, to forget is to pay!

In other words, there is always a cost involved. Today I want to look at three reminders the Apostle Paul gave to the Church in Philippi to keep them grounded in Christ. Let's see how

the Holy Spirit will speak to us today in one of these areas...

Let's look at these three reminders. The Philippians needed them, and we need them!

The three reminders are:

Rejoice in the Lord.

Look at Verse 1...

Notice the importance of reminders/remembrance (3:1b).

This could be translated, "Keep rejoicing in the Lord."

Why did he say this? Why do we need this?

Because stuff happens that tries to steal our joy!

Let me give you a tiny practice to implement this:

Pray with thanksgiving (Philippians 4:6)!

This will help us to rejoice when life seems against us!

One way: Write down the request then branch off thanksgivings.

Remove distractions.

² Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. ³ For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God^[b] and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— Philippians 3:2-3

Writing about rejoicing is interrupted by this second reminder...!

Three times in verse 2: “Look out!”

Here Paul is confronting the false teachers who added to Christ...

Everything in Verses 2-7 is about removing distractions.

What distractions do you see in your world?

Remember “the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus.”

⁸ 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...

Remember, the book of Philippians is a book of imitation!

This knowing Christ cannot be described, only experienced!

To remember is to prosper, to forget is to pay!

So, what do you need to remember this morning? To rejoice in the Lord? To remove some distractions in life? To remember that the greatest thing in all of life is to truly know Jesus? If you have never been introduced to Jesus, let today be the day...

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