

Philippians 3: Joy now, even more Joy to come

January 24th, 2021 by Kasey Crawford

Today's Passages: Philippians 3

Finally, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord...Philippians 3:1

Rejoice (*chairō*)= to be in a state of happiness, gladness, well-being.

Paul calls the church to have *joy* ____ *the Lord*. How do we do that?

For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh. Phil 3:3

We will have *joy in the Lord*, by the power of the Spirit who makes us true worshipers that glory in Christ!

and put no confidence in the flesh...3:3

Many of the ways that the world teaches us to be _____ in our identity are worthless toward worshipping Jesus.

If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: Philippians 3:4

Paul lists many of the things that that use to give him a strong identity: His family connection, his education, his training, his religious conformity, his cultural success, etc. He had done just about everything you could do to be considered a wild _____ in his world.

Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Philippians 3:8 NLT

Yet...he realized that none of those accomplishments _____ his spirit to the worship of Jesus, the true source of joy and satisfaction.

In fact, Paul realized that if he has "confidence in the flesh" it will rob him from being able to joyfully worship Jesus.

So now Paul actively gets ____ of dependence on anything other than simply knowing Jesus.

For his sake I have discarded everything else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ. Philippians 3:8 NLT

that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Phil 3:10-11

In other words...I have found the treasure. I have tasted the promised land. Knowing Jesus is what the soul is made for. So whatever it takes to fully gain Christ, I am in.

That is a man with clear vision. Yet, there is a sober humility to him...

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.

Phil 3:12

Paul expresses that:

I've found what I'm looking for, and I know there is so much more. In Christ, I have joy now, and even more joy to come.

In fact, our hope for the _____ of joy lies in the future because:
our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body...

Phil 3:20-21

Responding to God...

What human accolades or successes do you put confidence in that might be in the way of more joy in knowing Jesus?

When it comes to joy...Do you make the active choice to discard (treat as garbage) anything that isn't directly helping you know and worship Jesus more?