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Avoid the trappings of religion and value instead that your "rightness" comes from faith in Jesus

1. Religion causes you to put your <u>confidence</u> wrongly in you, not Jesus

Philippians 3:1-6

Romans 2:28-29

mutilators of the flesh

we are the circumcision

evildoers

we serve by the Spirit

dogs

 we boast in Christ Jesus and we put no confidence in the flesh

Galatians 3:19

2. Salvation through faith in Jesus will cause you to consider religion as <u>rubbish</u>

Philippians 3:7-9

zēmía – a mercantile term for "loss"; a "<u>bad deal</u>" (unsuccessful business transaction) which results in a *fine* (penalty, forfeiture)

Salvation was never intended to be a "get-out-of-Hell" card but that this same Savior has invited you into <u>relationship</u>

kerdaínō – an ancient mercantile term for exchanging (trading) one good for another; (figuratively) to exchange (trade out) what is mediocre ("good") for the better, i.e. "trading up"

Colossians 3:11

Trinity Core Value:

The Bible is God's Story given to transform you and to be **the** authority in your life

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 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... Philippians 3:8-9

3. Being found in Jesus means to fully identify with Jesus

Philippians 3:10-11

Paul aspired to more than knowing Christ and His resurrection, but understood that there was an <u>expectation</u> to also be joined with Christ in His death and sufferings

Now What?

Avoid the trappings of religion and value instead that your "rightness" comes from faith in Jesus



Philippians 3:1-11

Share It

What do you think of when you hear the word "religion?"

Learn from the Bible

Read Philippians 3:1-11 What is the author's warning? (2-6)

List the reasons Paul could have "put confidence in the flesh" (reasons why he might be self-confident before God).

How does Paul describe what he has lost and gained? (4-10)

How would you explain "a righteousness that is through faith in Christ?"(9)

What is his hope and goal? What will this mean?

Discuss Together

How is Paul's warning still relevant today? Why does religion lead toward confidence in ourselves instead of in Jesus? What does Paul say to do?

What does Paul want instead of religion? How could we share this?

Paul's calling (gospel to Gentiles, prison, death) is unique, but not his passion. What fueled his passion? What might this look like in our lives?

Pray Together

- For our global partners (some were just sent out)
- For our high school students
- For Todd Arnett and his family

Memory Verse for this Week

Philippians 3:8-9