

What's Important To You?

Phil 3:1-11

Intro

It is vital to know why we're here on this earth!

What is important in your life?

Each area of life has its rewards. Whatever endeavour you are a part of has its reward.

So oft people do things that bring them validation; that tells other people that we are something.

Tyranny of the Urgent

A woman who wouldn't let go of her purse was washed away - she clung to her sense of validation.

So many people spend all their time to reach the top of the ladder

We are driven by Hemfelt Minirth and Meier.

Drivenness is an insatiable drive to do more and be more. ... often mask the feelings of inadequacy and shame.

The drivenness is often used to prove ourselves (not validating yourself to another).

The answer is found in understanding how God sees you.

Review

- There is joy in adverse circumstances
- there is joy in serving others
- there is joy in knowing Christ
- there is joy in the adequacy of Christ

3:1-

“Finally”

“loipon” as for the rest, something remaining.

referring to the last thing Paul needs to talk about.

The problem: Judiasers were coming down (who were preaching a false Gospel). Their Gospel was “Christ plus...”

Law of Moses: 365 negative command and 250 positive commands. Created by the Pharisees.

Matt 5:20. Christ blows this out of the water!

3:2

Rejoice in the Lord: **a command**

“Find your chief joy in the Lord! and in nothing else!”

Not in any other pursuit. Should you do your job well? Absolutely. But nothing should replace the joy in your life. Nothing should be as fulfilling as your understanding who Christ is and what He has done.

The Law was given to the Jews. The Moral Law was given to point man to the need of a Savior.

The Ceremonial and civil Laws were given as a picture of the Christian life. They were **only** for the Jews.

When Christ rose - because we have the power of the Spirit in us - then we are no longer under the ceremonial law

There are a lot of believers who think they have to earn the favor of Christ. Either unto salvation or simply favor.

“Dogs”: You refer the Gentiles as the “dogs”. But you are really the dogs because you devour others with false teaching?

Isiah 56 - Isiah calls the people of Israel dogs because they are rejecting the truth.

This false doctrine today looks like legalism.

Forces others to wear a mask.

3:3-6

“No confidence in the flesh” - “do not put confidence in human credentials”

Modern parallel to v5:

“I was born in a Godly home. Baptised at 3 years old and never got into trouble. I started preaching at a young age, and I’ve had great success in teaching others. I’ve I had a passion above anyone else. People look up to me; I’ve made a name for myself. As for work: I created my own company, I can design programs with praisable speed and design.”

3:7

Paul’s attitude: “What I used to value I now see as completely useless!”

said in “greek perfect tense”: “I realized at one point in time i saw that as useless and I left it behind for the sake of Christ”

His scope of his life was broadened! He saw His life as more than the day to day progress; more than results, more than “This is what I need to do” or “this is what I have done or should be doing”.

“For the sake of the kingdom of God I counted all this as nothing”.

“A man is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep, to gain what he cannot lose”.

3:8

Contrast between v7. and v8.

v7 counted as rubbish for the sake of the Kingdom (the eternal perspective)

v8 counted as rubbish for currently knowing Christ (the current perspective)

“rubbish” - “skubala” Poop.

I hold all things loosely so that Christ can reign without rival - Chuck Swindol.

Application

The greatest pursuit is the knowing of Christ.

The greatest purpose is the kingdom of God.