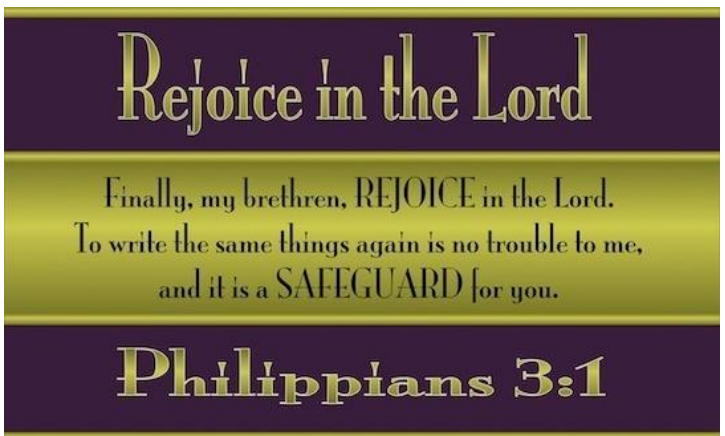
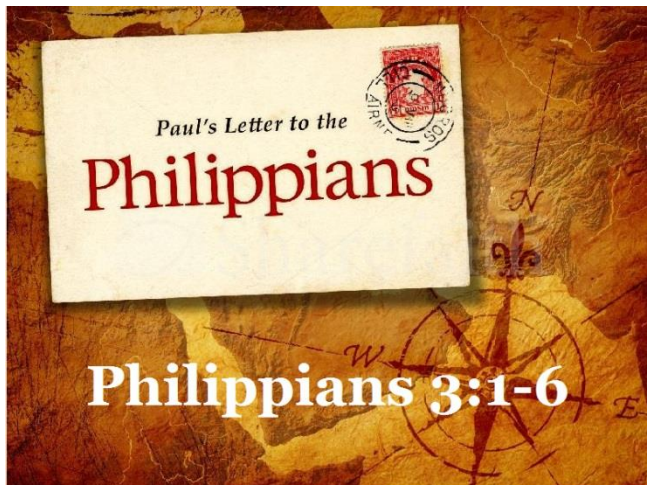




Paul starts with a command to rejoice and immediately follows with a warning about false teachers, both Jew and Gentile, who would pervert the gospel message, putting faith in their flesh and working for their salvation. To magnify the futile nature of fleshly position or accomplishments, Paul shows how he had been the perfect fleshly example of righteousness.

- Preview Introduction
- Legalism: In Circumcision Philippians 3:1-3
- Legalism: In Confidence Philippians 3:4-6



TRUTHS & PRINCIPLES	APPLICATIONS
God will never love you more, or love you less, than He does right now.	Quit trying to earn God's favor by performing good works.
Perfection, not goodness, is the entrance requirement to heaven.	Thank Christ that He loved you enough to die for you.
Being a member of a church does not make you a Christian any more than being a Pharisee made Paul a child of God. "Going to McDonalds does not make you a hamburger" – Keith Green	Put your faith and trust in Him now; give Him the steering wheel of your life.



Test all things; hold fast what is good. 1 Thessalonians 5:21

1. What was not tedious but safe for Paul (3:1)? _____
2. What are the three things that are mentioned, in this verse, that the Philippians needed to beware of (3:2)? _____
3. What are the three things mentioned that “we the circumcision” do in contrast to the warnings presented in the previous verse (3:3)? _____
4. Paul discusses confidence in what in this verse (3:4)? _____
5. What are the five things mentioned in this verse that Paul says he may have confidence in (3:5)? _____
6. What are the two things mentioned in this verse that Paul says he may have confidence in (3:6)? _____

Study Questions

1. Read PHILIPPIANS 3:1-3 and reflect on the danger of **legalism in circumcision**.
 - ❖ Are Christians given enough warnings about false teachers and erroneous doctrine?
 - ❖ What are the best ways to alert believers?
 - ❖ How do you detect false teachers?
 - ❖ What is involved in declaring the whole counsel of God?
 - ❖ How does this relate to the correct procedure of discipleship?
 - ❖ What contemporary groups correspond to the ancient Judaizers?
 - ❖ What are the modern equivalents to the issue of circumcision?
 - ❖ How can God be worshiped in the spirit?
 - ❖ What is the difference between proper order and legalistic formality?
2. Read PHILIPPIANS 3:4-6 and reflect on the danger of **legalism in confidence**.
 - ❖ In what ways do people put confidence in the flesh?
 - ❖ How can their pride be exposed?
 - ❖ Have you ever taken pride in any of your Christian “accomplishments”?
 - ❖ What are the dangers of thinking that these efforts can contribute towards your salvation?
 - ❖ Why do people struggle to accept the fact that God offers salvation as a gift?
 - ❖ How can people be sincerely wrong in their religious practice?
 - ❖ How can such people be won to Christ?