



# Philippians

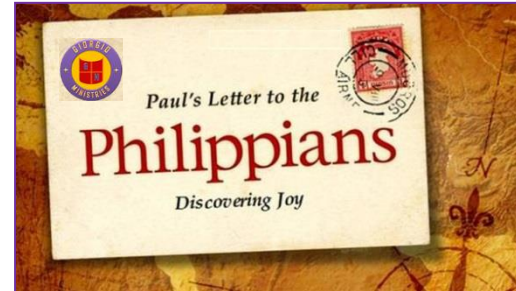
Joy In Christ

*Lesson 10*

## The Joy of Salvation

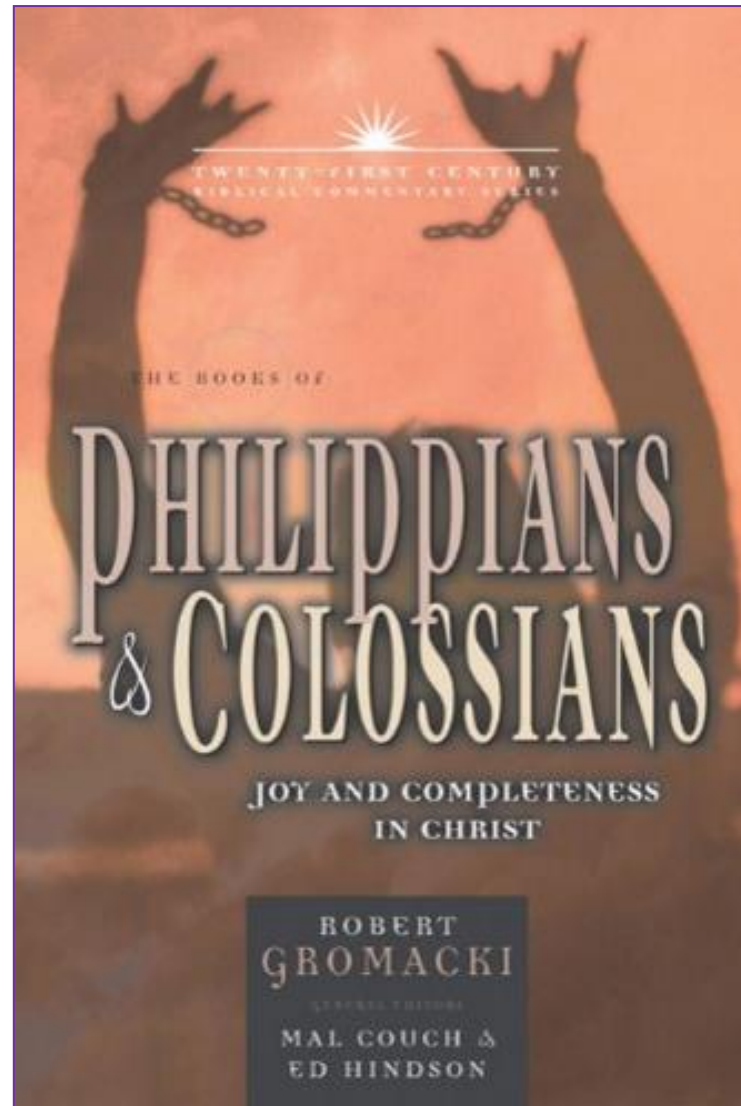
Philippians 3:7-14

Philip Giorgio



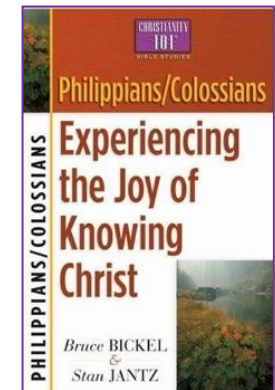
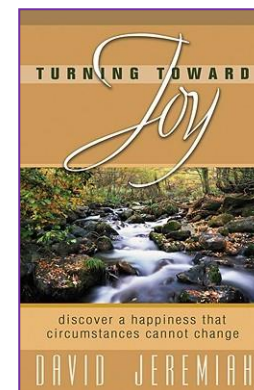
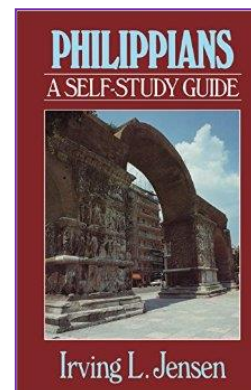
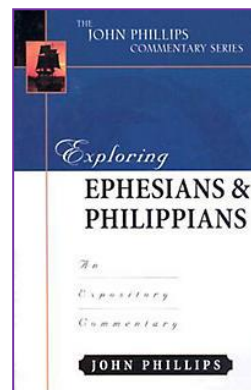
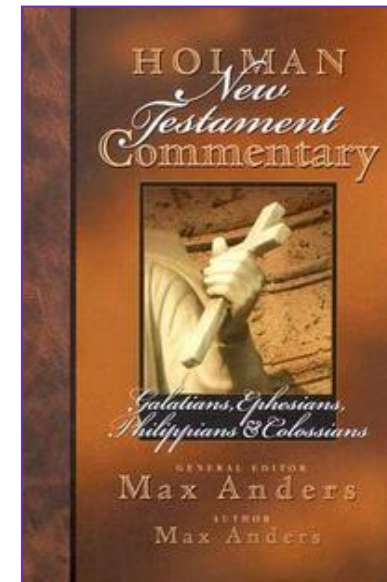
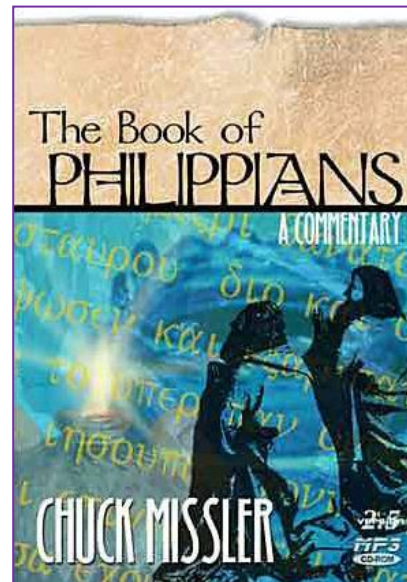


## Textbook



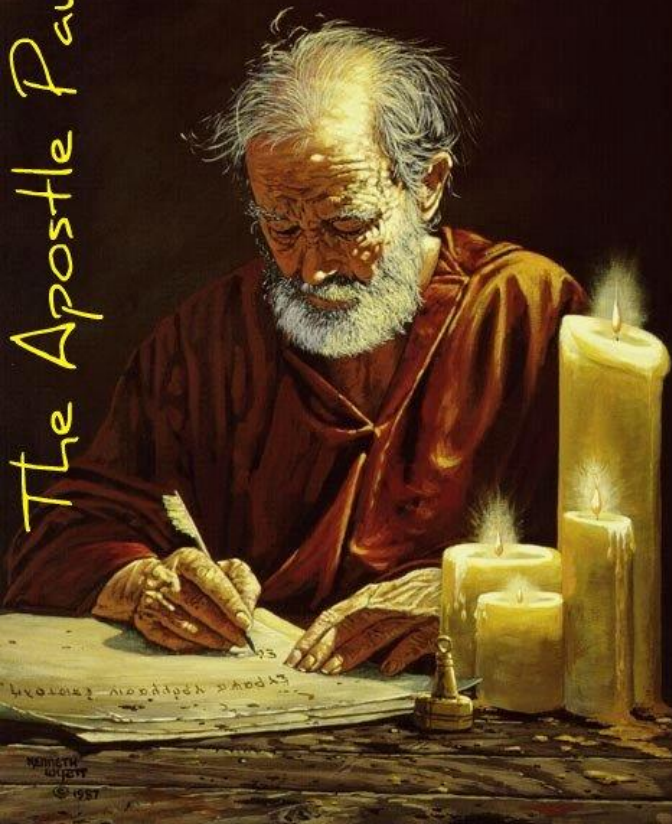


## References

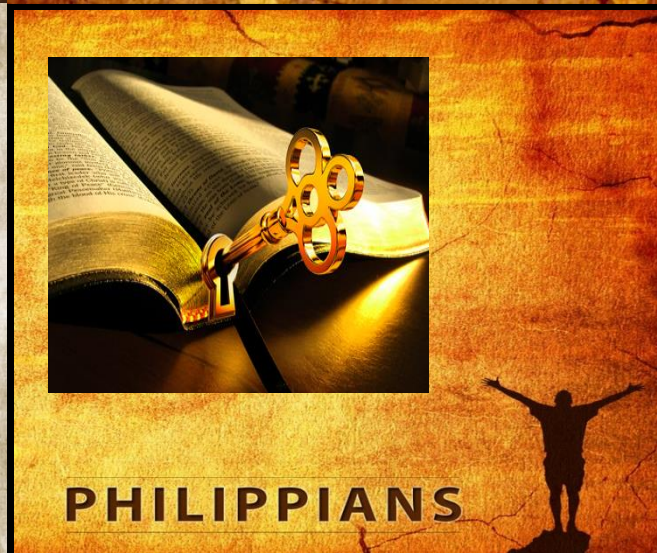
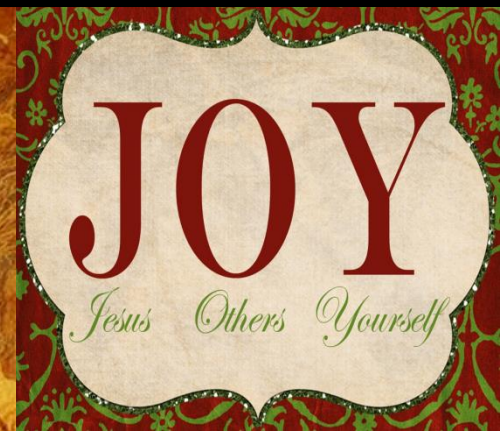
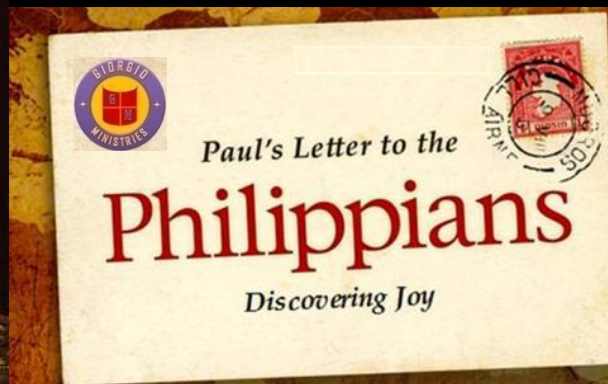




The Apostle Paul

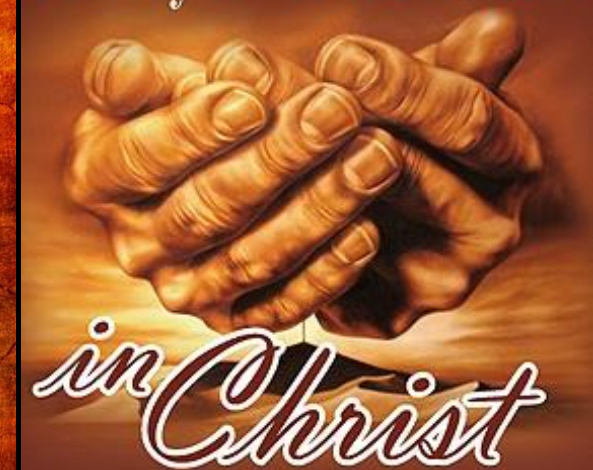


# Philippians



PHILIPPIANS

The Joy of our Inheritance





# Course Outline



# Course Outline - Lessons

## ■ Philippians: Joy In Christ

- Lesson 01: Introduction ..... [PHILIPPIANS]
- Lesson 02: The Prayer..... [PHILIPPIANS 1:1-11]
- Lesson 03: Opportunity of Obstacles ..... [PHILIPPIANS 1:12-19]
- Lesson 04: Blessings of Life and Death ..... [PHILIPPIANS 1:20-26]
- Lesson 05: Challenge to the Church ..... [PHILIPPIANS 1:27-2:4]
- Lesson 06: Humiliation and Exaltation ..... [PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11]
- Lesson 07: Marks of Humble Service ..... [PHILIPPIANS 2:12-16]
- Lesson 08: Three Examples of Humility ..... [PHILIPPIANS 2:17-30]
- Lesson 09: Danger of Legalism ..... [PHILIPPIANS 3:1-6]
- Lesson 10: The Joy of Salvation ..... [PHILIPPIANS 3:7-14]
- Lesson 11: The Joy of Maturity ..... [PHILIPPIANS 3:15-21]
- Lesson 12: The Joy of Peace ..... [PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9]
- Lesson 13: The Joy of Contentment ..... [PHILIPPIANS 4:10-23]

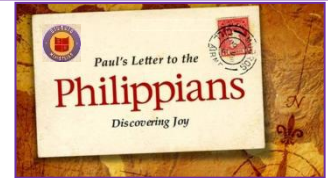


# Lesson Outline

# Lesson 10 - Outline

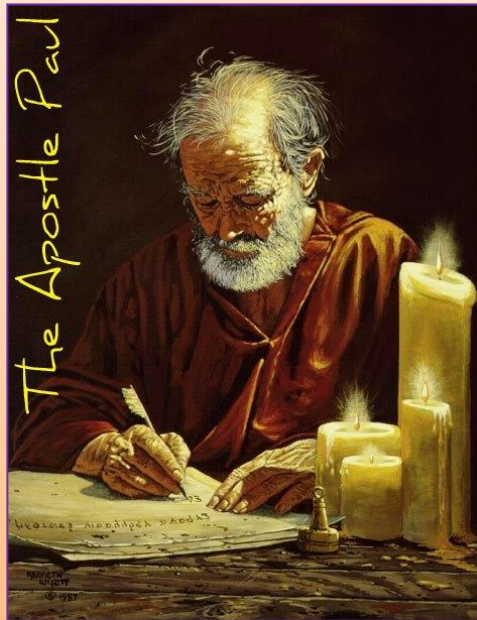
## ■ Philippians: Joy In Christ

### • Lesson 10: The Joy of Salvation



#### • STRUCTURE

- ➔ » Lesson Preview ..... Introduction
- » Justification ..... Philippians 3:7-9
- » Sanctification ..... Philippians 3:10-14

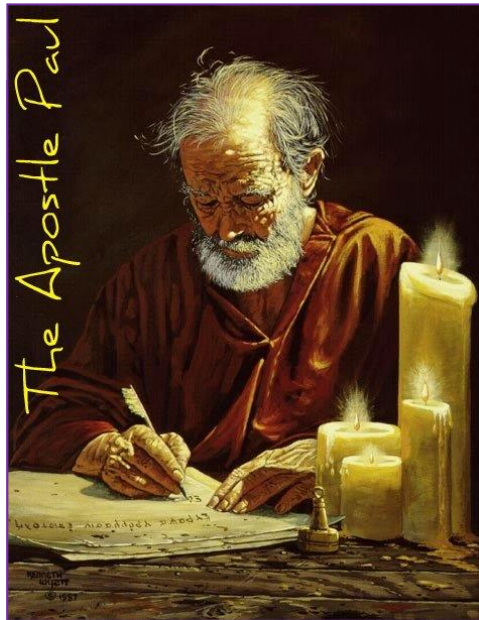




# Lesson Preview - INTRODUCTION

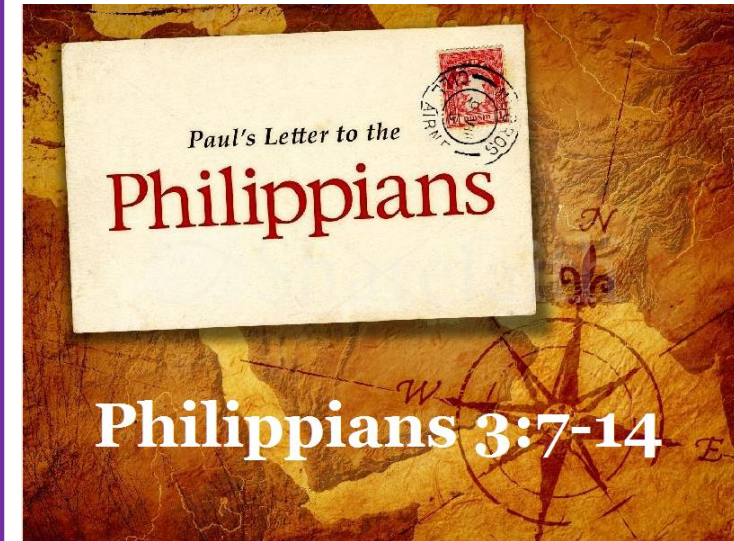
## • Preview ... THE JOY OF SALVATION

Paul, after pointing out his earthly credentials as a righteous man, explains that all of his accomplishments are worthless compared to the righteousness “WHICH COMES BY GOD ON THE BASIS OF FAITH.” Paul speaks of his great desire to one day be resurrected in Christ but also points out that, until that day, we all must work toward that goal. We are not to dwell on our past, whether glorious or infamous, but constantly press onward in service to our Lord.



# Lesson Preview - INTRODUCTION

In the **first part** of Philippians 3, Paul contrasts himself with the legalistic Judaizers, but in this **middle section** he reveals his new relationship to Jesus Christ. **Two** aspects of his **SALVATION** are given here: **JUSTIFICATION** (3:7-9) and **SANCTIFICATION** (3:10-14).



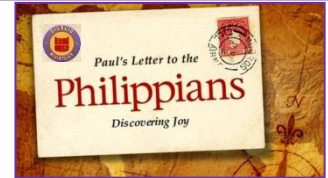
SALVATION		
PAST	PRESENT	FUTURE
JUSTIFICATION	SANCTIFICATION	GLORIFICATION
Saved from...		
PENALTY of SIN	POWER of SIN	PRESENCE of SIN
2 Thessalonians 1:9	Hebrew 7:25	Romans 13:11
These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,	Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.	And <i>do</i> this, knowing the time, that now <i>it is</i> high time to awake out of sleep; for now our salvation <i>is</i> nearer than when we <i>first</i> believed.



# Lesson 10 - Outline

## ■ Philippians: Joy In Christ

### • Lesson 10: The Joy of Salvation

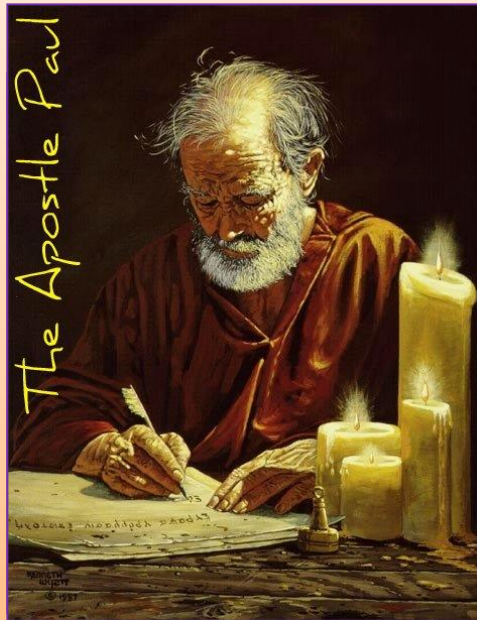


#### • STRUCTURE

» Lesson Preview ..... *Introduction*

➔ » Justification ..... *Philippians 3:7-9*

» Sanctification ..... *Philippians 3:10-14*





## Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But **what things** were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.  
<sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

### • Justification (3:7-9)

- JUSTIFICATION is the act of God whereby He declares to be righteous, that sinner who has received the imputed righteousness of God by faith in Jesus Christ.
  - Its essence is grace (Romans 3:24)
  - Its source is God (Romans 3:26)
  - Its means is by grace through faith (Romans 3:28)
  - Its foundations is the blood of Christ (Romans 5:9)
  - Its authority is Jesus Christ (1 Corinthians 6:11)
  - Its agent is the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 6:11)
  - Its evidence is works (James 2:24)
- The phrase “**WHAT THINGS**” refers to the SEVEN points of Paul’s past religious experience (3:5-6). They produced a legalistic sense of confidence within his life.

## Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these **I have counted** loss for Christ.

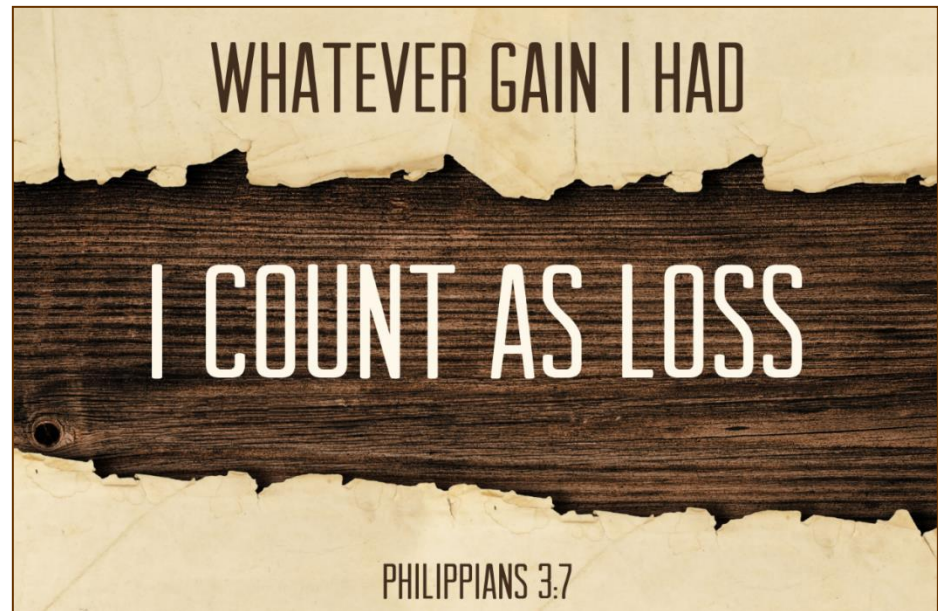
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.

<sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

### • PAUL ESTEEMED HIS GAINS AS LOSS (3:7)

- His assets became liabilities.
- The phrase “**I HAVE COUNTED**” indicates that he made a conscious decision to repudiate his religious successes and racial inheritance and that he continued to view his part in an unfavorable light. The new outlook occurred at the same time of his repentance.



# Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have **suffered the loss of all things**, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.  
<sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

## • PAUL SUFFERED LOSS (3:8A)

### • Paul “**SUFFERED THE LOSS OF ALL THINGS.**”

- He lost his status within Judaism, his reputation, and his opportunity for wealth and fame.
- He experienced ostracism, bodily harm, death threats, and property destruction.
- Paul’s conversion produced radical changes in all of his personal and social relationships.

### • WHY DID PAUL GIVE UP SO MUCH?

- He did it because Christ had done something for him.
- To have everything without Christ is to have nothing, but to have Christ is to possess everything.
- The reason behind Paul’s conversion was neither intellectual nor psychological; rather it was Christological - for the sake of Christ.



## Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as **rubbish**, that I may gain Christ.  
<sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

### • PAUL ESTEEMED HIS GAINS AS RUBBISH (3:8B)

- After 25 years of Christian experience, Paul still deprecated his self-righteous effort in the same way he did when he was born again.
- In genuine conversion, a believer repudiates legalism for both the imputation and the maintenance of his salvation.
- The graphic term “**RUBBISH**”, sometimes translated “**DUNG**” points to that which must be discarded as useless waste.



Everything else is  
 WORTHLESS when  
 compared with the  
**INFINITE VALUE**  
 of knowing  
**Christ Jesus**  
*my Lord.*

Philippians 3:8, NLT

## Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.  
<sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having **my own righteousness**, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the **righteousness which is from God by faith**;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

### • PAUL REJECTED HIS RIGHTEOUSNESS (3:9A)

- Paul had boasted about his achievements in his attempt to become righteous before God and humans.
- He once saw himself as blameless concerning legal **RIGHTEOUSNESS** (3:6).
- He knew that he had **RIGHTEOUSNESS**, but he now recognized that he had the wrong kind.
- He needed to rid himself of his self-righteousness.
- He finally perceived that no one is **RIGHTEOUSNESS** in oneself before God; thus no one can produce righteous acts that can bring salvation (Romans 3:10).

<sup>10</sup> As it is written:  
 "There is none **righteous**, no, not one;  
 --- Romans 3:10 ... NKJV



## Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the **knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord**, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.  
<sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

### • PAUL ACCEPTED CHRIST

- Paul's acceptance of salvation through Christ is now seen in **FOUR (4)** respects.

#### 1. PAUL NOW KNEW CHRIST (3:8A)

He repudiated his past legalistic efforts in light of the **"KNOWLEDGE OF CHRIST JESUS MY LORD."**

Salvation is not based on ignorance; it involves **knowledge**.

Sinners must **know something** to be saved, and they also must **know someone**.

They must **know intellectually** that Jesus Christ is both divine and human, that He died for the guilt and penalty of their sin, that He rose physically from the dead, that He is the only Savior of humankind and that humans cannot do anything to save themselves.

They must then **know Christ experientially** by believing in Him, by entrusting themselves completely to the saving care of the Lord.



# Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered **the loss of all things**, and count them as rubbish, that I may **gain Christ**.  
<sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

## • PAUL ACCEPTED CHRIST

### 2. PAUL WON CHRIST (3:8B)

The apostle **LOST** that he might **GAIN**.

He lost self and **GAINED CHRIST**.

He lost sin and gained righteousness.

He lost that which was human and gained that which was divine.

He lost temporal things and gained eternal things.

Paul wanted to **"GAIN"** Christ. He not only gained Christ in that one crucial event, but also for an entire lifetime.

In salvation, people gain Christ, not just things from Him.

The eternal destiny of believers is to be with Christ, not just to be in heaven (1 Thessalonians 4:17).

<sup>17</sup> Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall **always be with the Lord**.

--- 1 Thessalonians 4:17 ... NKJV

# Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.  
<sup>9</sup> and be **found in Him**, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

## • PAUL ACCEPTED CHRIST

### 3. PAUL WAS FOUND IN CHRIST (3:9A)

Human gaining & divine placing occur at the same moment.

The sphere of acceptance comes from one's position in Christ. When a person is in Him, he or she has been blessed with all spiritual blessings (Ephesians 1:3).

In Christ, a believer has

- divine election,
- predestination,
- acceptance,
- redemption,
- forgiveness,
- inheritance,
- sealing (Ephesians 1:4-14).

That person can now rejoice in his/her new spiritual position (2 Corinthians 5:17).

<sup>3</sup> Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* **in Christ**, --- Ephesians 1:3 .... NKJV



<sup>17</sup> Therefore, if anyone *is in Christ*, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. --- 2 Corinthians 5:17 ... NKJV

## Justification - Philippians 3:7-9 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>7</sup> But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  
<sup>8</sup> Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ.  
<sup>9</sup> and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is through faith in Christ*, the righteousness which is *from God* by *faith*;

-- Philippians 3:7-9 ... NKJV

### • PAUL ACCEPTED CHRIST

#### 3. PAUL POSSESSED THE RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD (3:9B)

##### IT IS THROUGH FAITH IN CHRIST.

The person and redemptive work of Jesus Christ are the means of saving faith (Romans 3:22, 28-31). Before God, persons are found in Adam or in Christ (Romans 5:12-21). The former brings condemnation, whereas the latter guarantees justification.

##### THE SOURCE IS GOD.

In salvation, people become partakers of the divine nature; thus, God imputes positional righteousness to them (2 Peter 1:4). Believing sinners are just as righteous as Christ because they have been made the righteousness of God in Him (2 Corinthians 5:21). God now sees believers in and through Christ and His righteousness.

##### ITS BASIS IS FAITH.

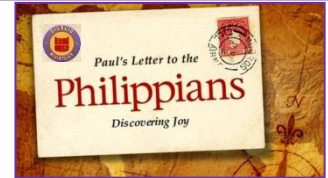
The righteous position rest upon the foundation of faith or trust, not upon pride or self-effort.



# Lesson 10 - Outline

## ■ Philippians: Joy In Christ

### • Lesson 10: The Joy of Salvation

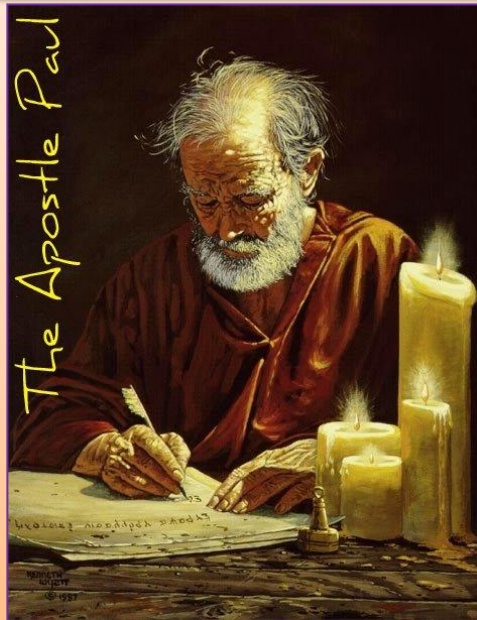


#### • STRUCTURE

» Lesson Preview ..... *Introduction*

» Justification ..... *Philippians 3:7-9*

➔ » Sanctification ..... *Philippians 3:10-14*



# Sanctification - Philippians 3:10 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>10</sup> that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,  
<sup>11</sup> if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

-- Philippians 3:10-12 ... NKJV

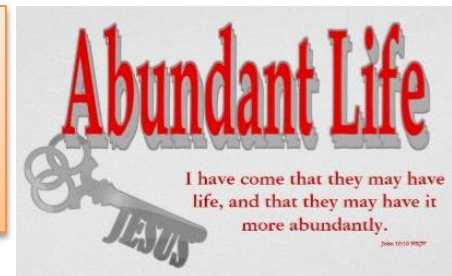
## • The Goals of Sanctification (3:10)

- Christ came that we might have **life** and that we might have it **abundantly** (John 10:10).
- When believing sinners have **justification**, they have **life** (3:7-9), but when they work at **sanctification**, they gain the **abundant life** (3:10-14).
- A person must be in Christ in order to know Him. **Justification** must precede **sanctification**.

Getting saved is like getting married;  
 it is just the beginning of a  
 growing, knowing, and sharing relationship.

- **THREE (3)** objects of experiential knowledge are now presented.

<sup>10</sup> The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have **life**, and that they may have *it* more **abundantly**.  
 --- John 10:10 ... NKJV



# Sanctification - Philippians 3:10 - OBSERVATIONS

**10** that I may **know Him** and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, **11** if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. **12** Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

-- Philippians 3:10-12 ... NKJV

**39** You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me.

--- John 5:39 ... NKJV

## • The Goals of Sanctification (3:10)

### 1. TO KNOW CHRIST

There is a difference between **objective** and **personal knowledge** of a person. The former deals with facts about man, whereas the latter stresses intimate acquaintance.

For example all, Americans know who the president of the United States is, but very few know him/her personally.

Paul knew that he had salvation; now he wanted to **know the Savior**. The goal is a lifelong pursuit, because the divine person of the Son of God is inexhaustible.

Believers can grow in grace and in the knowledge of Christ through a diligent study of the Scriptures that testify to Christ (John 5:39; 2 Peter 3:18).

As they see Him and begin to know Him through the written Word, that truth will transform their personalities into conformity to Christ (2 Corinthians 3:18).

**18** But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.

--- 2 Corinthians 3:18 ... NKJV

# Sanctification - Philippians 3:10 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>10</sup> that I may know Him and the **power of His resurrection**, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, <sup>11</sup> if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

-- Philippians 3:10-12 ... NKJV

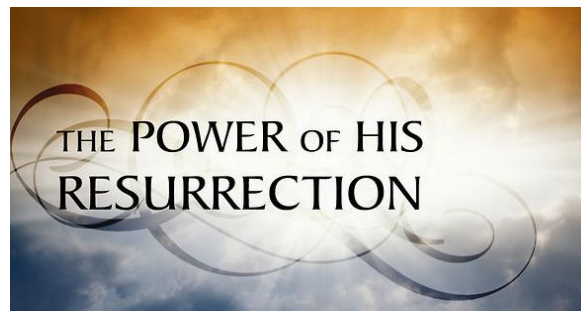
## • The Goals of Sanctification (3:10)

### 2. TO KNOW THE POWER OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION

The same "**POWER**" that raised Jesus Christ out of physical death also raised believing sinners out of spiritual death.

This **power** presently operates within believers to give them daily victory over sin (Ephesians 1:18-2:7). Paul prayed that believers might perceive this truth (Ephesians 1:15-20).

**KNOW JESUS  
& THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION  
& THE FELLOWSHIP OF SHARING IN HIS SUFFERINGS  
BECOMING LIKE HIM IN HIS DEATH**  
so that we may **live resurrected**





# Sanctification - Philippians 3:10 - OBSERVATIONS

**10** that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and **the fellowship of His sufferings**, being conformed to His death, **11** if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. **12** Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

-- Philippians 3:10-12 ... NKJV

## • The Goals of Sanctification (3:10)

### 3. TO KNOW THE FELLOWSHIP OF CHRIST'S SUFFERINGS

Jesus predicted that the apostles would **suffer** and die in the will of God (Matthew 20:23; 26:36-46).

Paul wanted to experience that **fellowship of suffering**.

Believers cannot die for sins as Christ did, but they can **suffer** for the sake of righteousness as they permit Christ to live out His life through them.

All believers who deny themselves, take up their crosses daily, and follow Christ will share in His **sufferings** (Matthew 16:24; 1 Peter 2:21).

This unique **fellowship** will involve **suffering** according to God's will (1 Peter 4:19)

- for doing good (1 Peter 3:14),
- for the name of Christ (1 Peter 4:14),
- and for being a Christian (1 Peter 4:16).

**TAKE UP YOUR CROSS.**

A True Christian does more than carry the name, they carry the **cross**.



**Matthew 16:24-26**

**DENY  
YOURSELF**  
**TAKE UP YOUR CROSS AND  
FOLLOW CHRIST**

SEE MATTHEW 16:24

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# Sanctification - Philippians 3:11 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>10</sup> that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,  
<sup>11</sup> if, by any means, I may **attain to the resurrection** from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

-- Philippians 3:10-12 ... NKJV

## • Expectation in the Goals (3:11)

### TO BE SENSITIVE IN THE PRESENT

The emphasis here is on a spiritual resurrection (Romans 6:7-10; Ephesians 5:14).

Paul knew that he would have to keep fighting against his sin nature (1 Corinthians 9:27).

He wanted to be spiritually alert and alive.

### TO BE ACCEPTED IN THE FUTURE

The emphasis here is not on a physical resurrection (1 Corinthians 15:50-58; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18).

When Christ returns, living believers will be translated and dead Christians will be raised.

The unsaved will be resurrected later; thus, this would be a resurrection out from among the unsaved who would remain dead (Revelation 20:5).

## Sanctification - Philippians 3:12 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>10</sup> that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,  
<sup>11</sup> if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup> **Not that I have already attained**, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

-- Philippians 3:10-12 ... NKJV

### • Attitudes Behind the Expectation (3:12)

Paul was neither complacent not apathetic. In honest introspection, he revealed **THREE (3)** basic **attributes** that controlled his holy **ambition**.

#### 1. PAUL HAD NOT RECEIVED EVERYTHING

He admitted that he had **not yet obtained** God's complete work in his life.

He had **not yet received** everything God had in store for him. In the many years since his conversion, Paul had enjoyed many times of blessings, but still more productive experiences lay ahead.

God is a giving God, and He will continue to give abundantly to those who want more.

# Sanctification - Philippians 3:12 - OBSERVATIONS

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<sup>11</sup> if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.  
<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already attained, or am already **perfected**; but **I press on**, that I may **lay hold** of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

-- Philippians 3:10-12 ... NKJV

## • Attitudes Behind the Expectation (3:12)

### 2. PAUL HAD NOT BECOME EVERYTHING

He admitted that he was not yet **"PERFECTED"**.

He knew that he was not in a **perfected** state with no room for personal, spiritual development.

If Paul, the greatest of the apostles, had not yet achieved **perfection** after his many years of Christian experience, then no believer can ever reach this plateau in this life.

This verse repudiated the concept of **sinless perfectionism**.

### 3. PAUL HAD NOT DONE EVERYTHING

He had ambition to improve.

The phrase **"I PRESS ON"** indicates hard pursuit, such as a hunter following his prey.

Paul wanted to **lay hold** of and pull down that purpose for which he had been saved.

He wanted to do everything God had planned for him to accomplish.



# Sanctification - Philippians 3:13-14 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>13</sup> Brethren, **I do not count myself to have apprehended**; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,

<sup>14</sup> I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

--- Philippians 3:13-14 ... NKJV

## • Ambition in the Attitudes (3:13-14)

- The Judaizers did not have the joy of either **justification** or **sanctification**.
- Paul definitely had the former, and he was in the process of gaining the latter.
- The joy of sanctification is based on daily **ambition** and **achievement**; described here in **FOUR (4)** concepts.

### 1. TO BE HONEST ABOUT ONESELF

Paul knew that he had not yet achieved the totality of the divine purpose for his life - **"I DO NOT COUNT MYSELF TO HAVE APPREHENDED."**

# Sanctification - Philippians 3:13-14 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, **forgetting those things which are behind** and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,  
<sup>14</sup> I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

--- Philippians 3:13-14 ... NKJV

Forgetting those things that lie behind.....



## • Ambition in the Attitudes (3:13-14)

### 2. TO FORGET THE PAST

Paul daily was “**FORGETTING THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE BEHIND.**” No person can erase from the **memory** what has transpired before, but he or she can keep the past from controlling the present and the future.

When God forgives our sins, He still **remembers** what they were, but He does not hold them against us. Believers must not permit the past to cause them depression or overconfidence in the present.

“**WHAT LIES BEHIND**” includes Paul’s past Pharisaical life that he had just recounted. In progressive **sanctification**, believers must not look upon their unsaved past with so much shame or pride that they fail to see Christ. In the same sense, they must not view their Christian past with either disdain or satisfaction.

# Sanctification - Philippians 3:13-14 - OBSERVATIONS

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--- Philippians 3:13-14 ... NKJV

## • Ambition in the Attitudes (3:13-14)

### 3. TO REACH FOR THE FUTURE

How many have heard the popular saying -  
***"Today is the first day of the rest of your life."***

For the believer, the best is yet to come. We should face the future with anticipation and joy.

Paul was **"REACHING FORWARD TO THOSE THINGS WHICH ARE AHEAD."**

The verb **"REACHING"** denotes an athlete who runs without swerving off course and who strains his entire body to cross the finish line (Acts 20:24; 1 Corinthians 9:26).

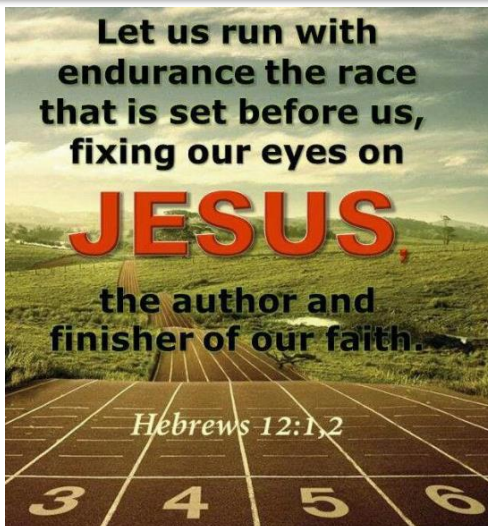
It was a spiritual exercise that occurred every day in the apostle's life.



# Sanctification - Philippians 3:13-14 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but **one thing I do**, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,  
<sup>14</sup> **I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.**

--- Philippians 3:13-14 ... NKJV



## • Ambition in the Attitudes (3:13-14)

### 4. TO PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL

With all of his holy ambition, the apostle wanted to do **“ONE THING”** (3:13).

He earnestly desired to **“PRESS ON TOWARD THE GOAL FOR THE PRIZE OF THE UPWARD CALL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS.”**

The verb **“PRESS”** describes vigorous, concentrated pursuit.

Paul was a man with a goal. He knew who he was and where he was going.

He realized that both God and others were watching him; but at the same time, he fixed his eyes on Christ (Hebrews 12:1-2), for his goal was to be like Him.

**12** Therefore we also, since we are **surrounded** by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us **lay aside** every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares *us*, and **let us run with endurance the race that is set before us**, <sup>2</sup>**looking unto Jesus**, the author and finisher of *our* faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

--- Hebrews 12:1-2 .... NKJV



# Sanctification - Philippians 3:13-14 - OBSERVATIONS

<sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,  
<sup>14</sup> I press toward the goal for the **prize** of the **upward call of God in Christ Jesus**.

--- Philippians 3:13-14 ... NKJV

## • Ambition in the Attitudes (3:13-14)

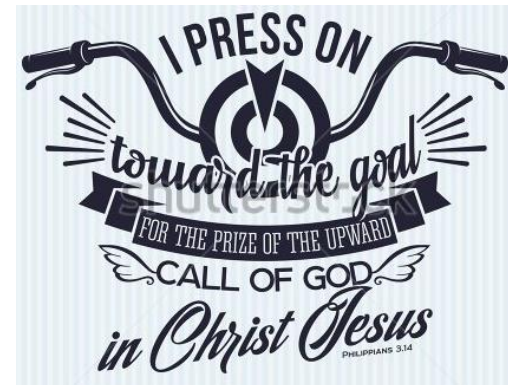
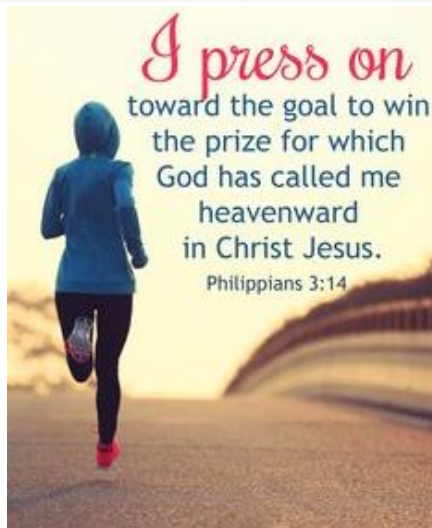
### 4. TO PRESS TOWARD THE GOAL

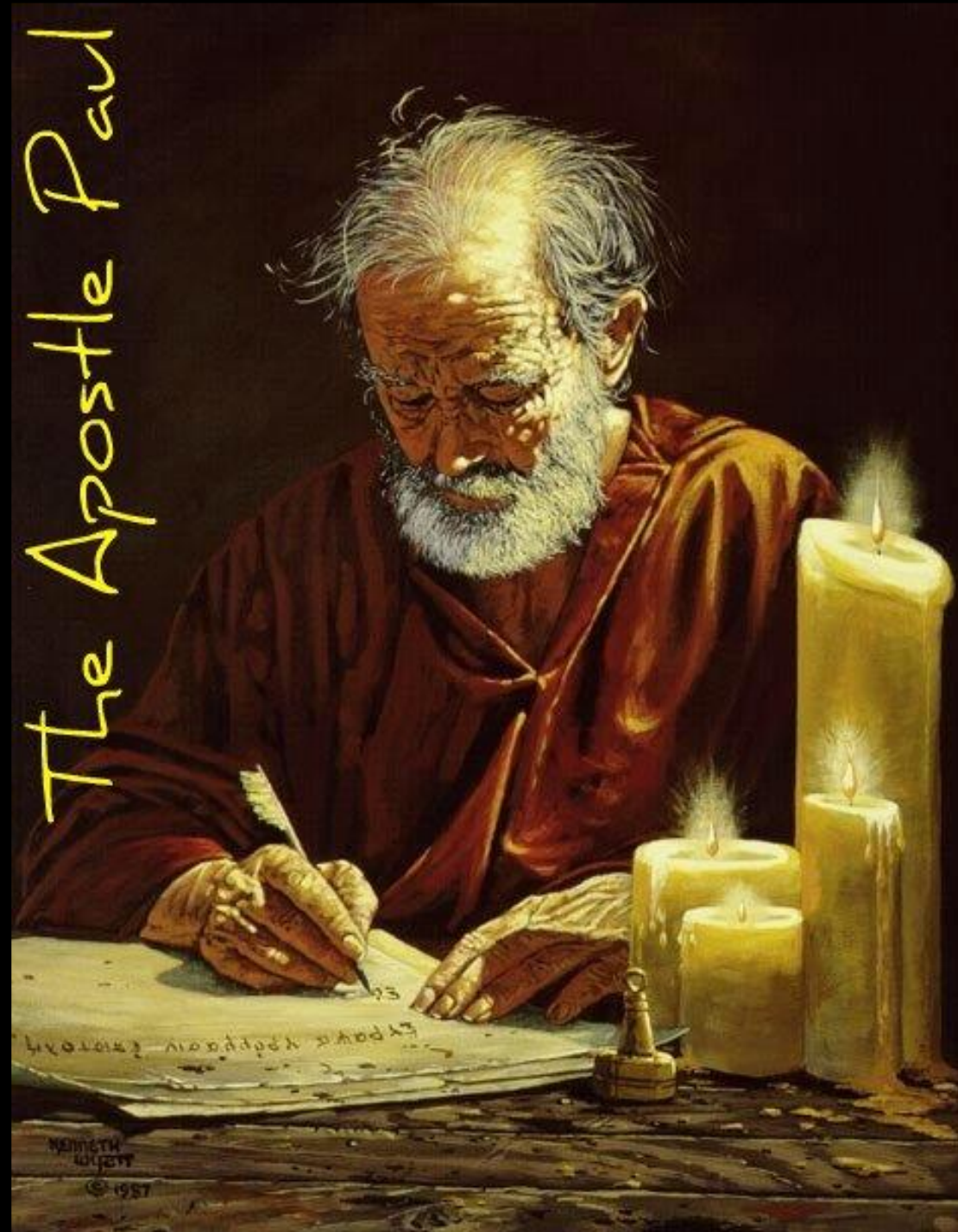
A **"PRIZE"** will be given for success.

At the Greek games, the winner of a race was summoned from the stadium floor to the judge's seat and a wreath of leaves was placed on his head.

At Athens, the winner was also given 500 coins, free meals, and a front-row seat at the theater. These prizes were temporary, but believers can obtain an eternal and incorruptible prize (1 Corinthians 9:26).

This human endeavor has been made possible by the **"UPWARD CALL OF GOD IN CHRIST JESUS."**





The Apostle Paul

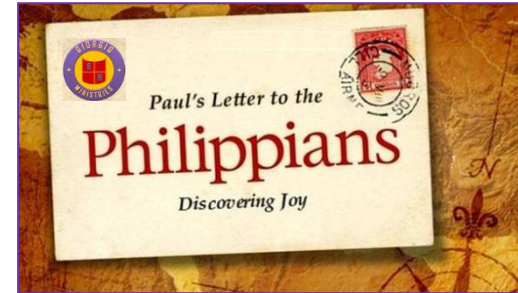
# Philippians

*"Joy In Christ"*

## *End of Lesson*



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# Philippians: Joy In Christ

Lesson **11**:  
The Joy of Maturity  
[**Philippians 3:15-21**]

***Next Lesson***

# Next Lesson

## ■ Philippians: Joy In Christ

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- Lesson 06: Humiliation and Exaltation ..... [PHILIPPIANS 2:5-11]
- Lesson 07: Marks of Humble Service ..... [PHILIPPIANS 2:12-16]
- Lesson 08: Three Examples of Humility ..... [PHILIPPIANS 2:17-30]
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- Lesson 12: The Joy of Peace ..... [PHILIPPIANS 4:1-9]
- Lesson 13: The Joy of Contentment ..... [PHILIPPIANS 4:10-23]



