

# Phil 3:1-11 All My Gain, I Count As Loss

## A warning against Judaizers

Php 3:1-21 Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. 2 Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh.

- **Similar items today** - certain traditions, dress, food, worship style, define what righteousness is
- **Why is this kind of teaching appealing?**
  - Easy for checkbox....tradition God never changes...peer pressure....need to DO...superiority

3 For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh-- (Deut 30:6 God will circumcise your heart so that you will love the Lord your God)

- Rom 2:28-29 ESV For no one is a Jew who is merely one outwardly, nor is circumcision outward and physical. 29 But a Jew is one inwardly, and **circumcision is a matter of the heart**, by the **Spirit**, not by the letter. **His praise is not from man but from God.**

**I COUNT** - a thoughtful deliberate choice, leading you to make conclusions that bring change

**1. A CHANGE IN VALUES** → years invested in training, studies, personal commitment, status laid aside

4 though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: **SLIDE** 5 circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. 7 But whatever gain I had, I **counted** as loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Indeed, I **count** everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. (Jn 17:3 this is eternal life that they might know you and Jesus Christ whom you have sent)

- ALL MY GAIN - credentials highly valued → Strict Observance, covenant people, benjamin loyal to david still identifiable tribe Jewish Lineage, Fluent in Hebrew, strict obedience Pharisee
- I COUNT AS LOSS → a deliberate choice → not just set aside, but detrimental in comparison to Christ

**2. A CHANGE IN IDENTITY** → to **GAIN Him & be found IN HIM with righteousness that comes by faith**

For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ 9 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith--

**3. A CHANGE OF PURPOSE** → to **know Him intimately - resurrection, suffering, death**

- 10 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.

Suffering, death & resurrection is more logical, but this order shifts the focus from merely **what happens after we die to how we live in Christ's power now**

- **Resurrection** → Eph 1:19-20 ESV and what is the immeasurable greatness of **his power toward us** who believe, according to the working of his great might 20 that he worked in Christ **when he raised him** from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places,
- **Suffering** → 1Pe 4:13-14 ESV But rejoice insofar **as you share Christ's sufferings**, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. 14 If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.
- **Death** → Gal 2:20 ESV I have been **crucified with Christ**. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the **life I now live** in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.

A CHANGE IN VALUES -all his gain he counted as loss

A CHANGE IN IDENTITY - I want to be found in Him having righteous that comes by faith in Jesus

A CHANGE IN PURPOSE - To Know Him in his resurrection, suffering and death