

# Philippians Class Schedule

5/12/2024	Phil 2:14-16	No grumbling or disputing
5/19/2024	Phil 2:17-18	Poured out as an offering
5/26/2024	Phil 2:19-24	Timothy example
6/2/2024	Phil 2:25-30	Epaphroditus example
6/9/2024	Phil Chp 2	Chp 2 Review
6/16/2024	Phil 3:1-3	Beware of men of the flesh
6/23/2024	Phil 3:4-6	Paul's resume in the flesh
6/30/2024	Phil 3:7-9	Knowing Christ Jesus my Lord #1
7/7/2024	Phil 3:10-11	Knowing Christ Jesus my Lord #2
7/14/2024	Phil 3:12-16	The call of God in Christ Jesus #1

# CHRISTIAN MATURITY or “Shunning, Pursuing, and Walking”\*

## Shunning All Legalism 3:1-11

### 1. The Warning Given 3:1-6

- a. The Safeguard of Repetition 3:1
- b. Beware and Put No Confidence in the Flesh 3:2-3
- c. The Example of Human Righteousness 3:4-6

### 2. The Grace Perspective 3:7-11

- a. His Past: Renunciation of All Personal Merit 3:7-9
- b. His Present: Total Dedication to Knowledge of Christ  
3:10-11

<sup>3</sup> for we are the *true* circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh

for

we are [*eimi*] the circumcision

the ones

worshiping by the Spirit

and

glorying in Christ Jesus

and

not having confidence in the flesh

and in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ

Col 2:11

Gal 5:25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Gal 6:14 But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.

## Items of Paul's confidence in the flesh (verses 5 and 6)

Paul cited seven advantages: Constable

- The first four being things he inherited
- The last three things he chose by conviction

1 - circumcised the eighth day

2 - of the race [offspring] of Israel

3 - of the tribe of Benjamin

4 - a Hebrew of Hebrews

1st – Paul was a Pharisee according to [norm and standard of] the Law

2nd Paul was a persecutor of the church according to [norm and standard] of zeal

3rd – Paul having become blameless according to [norm and standard] righteousness in the Law

## Today's Verses

<sup>7</sup> But whatever things were gain to me, **those things I have counted** as loss for the sake of Christ.

<sup>8</sup> More than that, **I count all things** to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and **count them but rubbish** so that I may gain Christ,

<sup>9</sup> and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith

<sup>7</sup> But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

but – *alla* – in strong contrast

whatever things – the things listed in verses 5 and 6

were - *eimi* – the state in which someone continually exists – aorist tense

•these things were realities in Paul's life before conversion

gain[s] to me

•to me a gainful asset[s]

Wuest

those things - the things listed in verses 5 and 6

•Next Paul will give us a comparison between “the things” gained by human merit and knowing Christ

<sup>7</sup> But whatever things were gain[s] to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

I have considered these loss for the sake of Christ Interlinear

I have considered - *hēgeomai* - meaning to count, to deem,  
to think, to account perfect tense

• I have considered in the past [those things] and continue to consider [those things] into the present

• After mature consideration, Paul came to a settled conviction with regard to the matter. Wuest

loss *or* detriment

• His [Paul's] gains are plural, but they are all counted as one combined loss (singular). Vincent

<sup>8</sup> More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,

overview of what follows:

- verses 8 to 11 are one long sentence

- verse 8a contains the main verb for this long sentence

but even more so I consider all things to be loss Interlinear

- Paul reinforces his point by saying “but even more so” lit: yes, indeed, therefore, at least, even (5 particles)\*

- show the force and passion of Paul's conviction \* Wuest

I consider – same as before “to count, to deem, to think,”  
but this time it is present tense

- therefore we have Paul continually counting all things to be loss



<sup>8</sup> More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,

- The remainder of this sentence tells us of how Paul considered his life in the flesh vs his life in Christ
- the remaining statements modifies the verb “I consider”

**1<sup>st</sup> point** – [to be loss] **on account of the excellency of the knowledge of Christ the Lord of me** Interlinear

- **on account of** - in view of or for the sake of
- **excellency** – the overwhelming preciousness, the surpassing worth Amplified
- [of] my knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord which I have gained through experience\*
- Paul came to know His heart, His will, as one comes to know another through intimate fellowship and close association with that person.\* \* Wuest

<sup>8</sup> More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him

**2<sup>nd</sup> point** – for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish

- It was “on account of” or “for whose sake”
- the **whom** is Christ Jesus
- **I have suffered the loss** - *zēmióō* - meaning to suffer loss, receive detriment (passive)
- **all things** – *pas* - none excluded – Paul goes beyond the things that were gained to him to all things
- **count** [view, regard] **them but rubbish**
- **rubbish** - *skybalon* - First, it may refer to feces from the human body. Second, it may refer to garbage or spoiled food.

McCalley

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**3<sup>rd</sup> point** - so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him  
so that – with a purpose that

I may gain [Christ] - *kerdainō* – metaphorically used of persons meaning to gain or win someone

•of so practically appropriating Christ to oneself that He becomes the dominating power in and over one's whole being and circumstances. Vine

•This expression does not refer to Paul's acquisition of Christ as Savior, but to Paul's appropriating into his life as a Christian, the perfection, the graces, the fragrance of the Person of Christ. Wuest

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3<sup>rd</sup> point - continued  
may be found in Him

found - *heurískō* - with the meaning of "turn out actually to be" (passive)

- Paul uses a similar expression in Gal 2:17, "we ourselves are found to be sinners."
- The idea involved is that of a revelation of character.
- Paul wants his life to demonstrate that he is in Christ.
- He wants to be found by observing men to be in Christ.

Wuest

<sup>9</sup> and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith,

4<sup>th</sup> point - not having a righteousness of my own, derived from *the* Law

- The words "not having mine own righteousness," assumes that Paul had a personal righteousness
- Which was not the case!
- The idea is "not having any righteousness which can be called my own."
- Paul did not desire to be seen to have any righteousness that would be the result of law-keeping.
- He was done with that.

Wuest

<sup>9</sup> and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith,

**5<sup>th</sup> point** - but that [righteousness] which is through [*dia*] faith in Christ

**but** – *alla* – in strong contrast [to the righteousness derived from the Law]

• true righteousness is “through” or “by means of” faith in Christ

**6<sup>th</sup> point** - the [true] righteousness which *comes* from [*ek*] God on the basis [*epl*] of faith

• Rom 4:3 For what does the Scripture say? "ABRAHAM BELIEVED GOD, AND IT WAS CREDITED TO HIM AS RIGHTEOUSNESS."

## Next Week

### Philippians 3:10-11

<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> in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.