

Philippians

Chapter 3:4-11

- I. **Philippians 3:4** ⁴Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:
- a. confidence
 - i. **Confidence- Greek word *pepoithesis*** - Strongs Con. from the perfect of the alternate of G3958; reliance:— confidence, trust.
 - 1. Noun form of Peitho from Philippians 3:3
 - b. flesh
 - i. Typically flesh is listed as sinful behaviors (**Galatians 5:19-21, Romans 13:14, Romans 6:6-7, Galatians 5:24**).
 - ii. flesh also linked to self righteousness, legalism and religion which is the context in this verse.
 - 1. **I Corinthians 13:1-3** ¹Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity, I am become *as* sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. ²And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing. ³And though I bestow all my goods to feed *the poor*, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.
 - c. Thinketh
 - i. There is a relationship, in this verse, about what a man thinks and trusting in the flesh. It wasn't about what

they thought about who they were in Christ. This is linked to the 3 groups that were warned against.

1. **I Corinthians 10:12** ¹²Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

a. **Trusting in the flesh does not help us stand.**

2. **Jesus consistently emphasized the motivation behind the behavior..see Matthew 6:1-7**

II. **Philippians 3:5-6** ⁵Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; ⁶Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

a. Circumcised stock of Israel

i. Eighth day and stock of Israel show that this was circumcision made with hands in accordance with the nation of Israel being set apart as God's chosen people (**Isaiah 44:1**).

ii. **Genesis 17:10** ¹⁰This *is* my covenant, which ye shall keep, between me and you and thy seed after thee; Every man child among you shall be circumcised.

iii. **Genesis 17:14** ¹⁴And the uncircumcised man child whose flesh of his foreskin is not circumcised, that soul shall be cut off from his people; he hath broken my covenant.

b. tribe of Benjamin

i. Benjamin and Judah were the only two tribes of the Southern Kingdom (**II Chronicles 11:1, 12**). The other ten were the Northern Kingdom of Israel.

ii. **Genesis 49:27** ²⁷Benjamin shall ravin *as* a wolf: in the morning he shall devour the prey, and at night he shall divide the spoil.

1. **Les Feldick brought this verse up as potentially being prophetic of Paul, since he was of the**

tribe of Benjamin and persecuted the church (devoured the prey), then divided the spoil.

c. Hebrew of the Hebrews

i. **There was a sense of pride of speaking Hebrew since many Jews were Hellenized at this point in time.**

1. **Acts 21:40** ⁴⁰And when he had given him licence, Paul stood on the stairs, and beckoned with the hand unto the people. And when there was made a great silence, he **spake** unto *them* in the **Hebrew** tongue, saying,,

a. **See also Acts 22:2**

d. Pharisee

i. **Acts 26:4-5** ⁴My manner of life from my youth, which was at the first among mine own nation at Jerusalem, know all the Jews; ⁵Which knew me from the beginning, if they would testify, that after the most straitest sect of our religion I lived a Pharisee.

e. Concerning zeal

i. **Acts 22:3** ³I am verily a man *which am* a Jew, born in Tarsus, *a city* in Cilicia, yet brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, *and* taught according to the perfect manner of the law of the fathers, and was zealous toward God, as ye all are this day.

f. Persecuting the church

i. **This was the early Kingdom church.**

1. **Acts 2:47** ⁴⁷Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

2. **Stephen calls the Israelites in the wilderness a church in Acts 7:36-40**

ii. **Acts 8:3** ³As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed *them* to prison.

iii. **Acts 9:1-2** ¹And Saul, yet breathing out threatenings and slaughter against the disciples of the Lord, went

unto the high priest, ²And desired of him letters to Damascus to the synagogues, that if he found any of this way, whether they were men or women, he might bring them bound unto Jerusalem.

iv. **Acts 9:13-14**¹³Then Ananias answered, Lord, I have heard by many of this man, how much evil he hath done to thy saints at Jerusalem: ¹⁴And here he hath authority from the chief priests to bind all that call on thy name.

v. **See also Acts 22:4, I Corinthians 15:9 and Galatians 1:22-23.**

g. **Righteousness in law blameless**

III. **Philippians 3:7** ⁷But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. ⁸Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,

a. **When we become a Christian our mindset changes. Our true gain is Christ.**

b. Were Gain

i. **Past tense**

ii. **Galatians 1:13-14** ¹³For ye have heard of my conversation in time past in the Jews' religion, how that beyond measure I persecuted the church of God, and wasted it: ¹⁴And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly zealous of the traditions of my fathers.

1. profited in Jews' religion

iii. **Knowledge puffs up (I Corinthians 8:1).**

c. Loss for Christ

i. **Romans 3:20** ²⁰Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall **no flesh be justified in his sight**: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin.

ii. **Romans 6:11** ¹¹Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

iii. **Paul's shipwreck example of loss for Christ sakes after he was converted (Acts 27:10,21)**

d. Excellency of the knowledge of Christ

i. **I Corinthians 2:6-10** ⁶Howbeit we speak wisdom among them that are perfect: yet not the wisdom of this world, nor of the princes of this world, that come to nought: ⁷But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, *even* the hidden *wisdom*, which God ordained before the world unto our glory: ⁸Which none of the princes of this world knew: for had they known *it*, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. ¹⁰But God hath revealed *them* unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

ii. **Col 1:25-28** ²⁵Whereof I am made a minister, according to the dispensation of God which is given to me for you, to fulfil the word of God; ²⁶*Even* the mystery which hath been hid from ages and from generations, but now is made manifest to his saints: ²⁷To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory: ²⁸Whom we preach, warning every man, and teaching every man in all **wisdom**; that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus:

1. **See Ephesians 3:1-12**

e. Dung

i. **Dung- Greek word *skybalon*** - Strongs Con. neuter of a presumed derivative of G1519 and G2965 and G906; what is thrown to the dogs, i.e. refuse (ordure):—dung.

1. **Used once in the NT**

f. Winning Christ

i. Winning not working for

- ii. **Philippians 3:14** ¹⁴I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.
- IV. **Philippians 3:9** ⁹And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
- a. **Identity “In Christ”**
 - b. Found in him
 - i. **From vantage point of others not having his own righteousness**
 - ii. **I Corinthians 1:30** ³⁰But of him are ye **in Christ Jesus**, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:
 - iii. **Ephesians 1;3** ³Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly *places* **in Christ**:
 - iv. **Ephesians 2:14** ¹⁴For he is our peace, who hath made both one, and hath broken down the middle wall of partition *between us*;
 - v. **Ephesians 3:12** ¹²**In** whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.
 - vi. **Colossians 2:9-10** ⁹For **in him** dwelleth all the fulness of the Godhead bodily. ¹⁰And ye are complete **in him**, which is the head of all principality and power:
 - c. Through Faith (Colossians 2:6)
 - i. **Galatians 2:16** ¹⁶Knowing that a man is not justified by the works of the law, but by the faith of Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Jesus Christ, that we might be justified **by the faith of Christ**, and not by the works of the law: for by the works of the law shall no flesh be justified.
 - ii. **Ephesians 2:8** ⁸For by grace are ye **saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: *it is* the gift of God:
 - iii. **Galatians 2:20** ²⁰I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I **live by the**

faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

d. Righteousness apart from the law

- i. **Under the law, Israel's righteousness is as of filthy rags. (Isaiah 64:6).**
- ii. **It's not because of our righteousness, but his mercy that we are saved (Titus 3:5).**
- iii. **Romans 8:3** ³For what the **law could not do**, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:
- iv. **Romans 3:20-22** ²⁰Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law *is* the knowledge of sin. ²¹But now the righteousness of God without the law is manifested, being witnessed by the law and the prophets; ²²Even the righteousness of God *which is* by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference;.
- v. **Galatians 2:21** ²¹I do not frustrate the grace of God: for if righteousness *come* by the law, then Christ is dead in vain.,
- vi. **Galatians 3:19** ¹⁹Wherefore then *serveth* the law? It was added because of transgressions, till the seed should come to whom the promise was made; *and it was* ordained by angels in the hand of a mediator.

V. **Philippians 3:10** ¹⁰That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

a. Know him

- i. **II Corinthians 5:16** ¹⁶Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.

1. **not in accordance to the synoptic instead**

- ii. **Philippians 3:21** ²¹Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself.,
- iii. **Ephesians 1:22-23** ²²And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church, ²³Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

b. Power of His Resurrection

- i. **Power- dynamo- of the resurrection**
- ii. **Ephesians 1:19,20** ¹⁹And what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power to us-ward who believe, according to the working of his mighty power, ²⁰Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*,
- iii. **Ephesians 3:21** ²¹Unto him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.
- iv. **II Corinthians 12:8-9** ⁸For this thing I besought the Lord thrice, that it might depart from me. ⁹And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

c. Fellowship of his sufferings

- i. **Romans 8:14-17** ¹⁴For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. ¹⁵For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received the Spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father. ¹⁶The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: ¹⁷And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with *him*, that we may be also glorified together.

ii. **Colossians 1:24** ²⁴Who now rejoice in my sufferings for you, and fill up that which is behind of the afflictions of Christ in my flesh for his body's sake, which is the church:

iii. **II Corinthians 1:7** ⁷And our hope of you *is* stedfast, knowing, that as ye are partakers of the sufferings, so *shall ye be* also of the consolation.

d. Conformable to His death

i. **Romans 8:29** ²⁹For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate *to be* conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren.

ii. **Romans 6:3-4** ³Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? ⁴Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life

iii. **Colossians 3:3** ³For ye are dead, and your life is hid with Christ in God.

iv. **I Corinthians 15:31** ³¹I protest by your rejoicing which I have in Christ Jesus our Lord, I die daily.

VI. **Philippians 3:11** ¹¹If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

a. Attain

i. **Stand out from**

b. Resurrection of the dead

i. **John 5:29** ²⁹And shall come forth; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation.

ii. **Acts 24:15** ¹⁵And have hope toward God, which they themselves also allow, that there shall be a resurrection of the dead, both of the just and unjust.

1. **Just= (I Corinthians 15:51-54)**

2. **Unjust= (Revelation 20:11-13)**