

# Philippians

## Lesson 5

Paul Empties Himself To Gain Christ

Php Chapter 3

## Have The Attitude of Jesus Christ Within You

1. Live in a manner worthy of the gospel  
Php 1:27-30
2. Imitate humble unselfish attitude of Christ  
Php 2:1-11
3. Joyously serve God as lights in the world  
Php 2:12-18

2

## Introduction

- Theme of the book again, "Rejoice in the Lord"
- Rejoicing based on commitment to the Lord not on being satisfied with earthly circumstances
- When we lose our commitment to the Lord, we lose ability to rejoice
- Paul writes of how it is necessary to continue to empty self so we may keep striving to gain Christ

3

## Paul Empties Himself To Gain Christ

1. Warning against false teachers  
Php 3:1-3
2. Paul empties himself of fleshly things to gain Christ  
Php 3:4-16
3. Follow godly examples and beware of enemies of the cross  
Php 3:17-19

4

## Warning Against False Teachers

Php 3:1 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things *again* is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.

Php 3:2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;

Php 3:3 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,

5

## Warning Against False Teachers

- Many try to preach Christ and neglect warning against false teachers
- Paul urges them to make a distinction between those who follow Truth and those following error

6

## Paul Had Once Trusted In The Flesh

Php 3:4 although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:

Php 3:5 circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;

7

## Paul Had Once Trusted In The Flesh

Php 3:6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.

8

## Paul Had Once Trusted In The Flesh

- Things of the flesh include all things we trust in for salvation other than Christ
- These things make us proud of ourselves, our families, our nationality, our religious background, our ability to follow law (in Paul's case Law of Moses) to be saved
- Following the flesh we cannot be humble before and trust in the Lord for salvation

9

## Trusting In God Compared To Trusting In Self

Luk 18:9 And He also told this parable to some people who trusted in themselves that they were righteous, and viewed others with contempt:

Luk 18:10 "Two men went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector.

10

## Trusting In God Compared To Trusting In Self

Luk 18:11 "The Pharisee stood and was praying this to himself: 'God, I thank You that I am not like other people: swindlers, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector.

Luk 18:12 'I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.'

11

## Trusting In God Compared To Trusting In Self

Luk 18:13 "But the tax collector, standing some distance away, was even unwilling to lift up his eyes to heaven, but was beating his breast, saying, 'God, be merciful to me, the sinner!'

Luk 18:14 "I tell you, this man went to his house justified rather than the other; for everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted."

12

## Paul Empties Himself Of Fleshly Things To Gain Christ

Php 3:7 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

Php 3:8 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,

13

## Paul Empties Himself Of Fleshly Things To Gain Christ

Php 3:9 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,

Php 3:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

14

## Paul Empties Himself Of Fleshly Things To Gain Christ

Php 3:11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

15

## Knowing Christ Paul's Greatest Goal In Life

Joh 17:3 "This is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.

16

## Sharing In Christ's Suffering, Death and Resurrection

Rom 6:3 Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?

Rom 6:4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

17

## Sharing In Christ's Suffering, Death and Resurrection

Eph 1:18 *I pray that* the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints,

Eph 1:19 and what is the surpassing greatness of His power toward us who believe. *These are* in accordance with the working of the strength of His might

18

## Sharing In Christ's Suffering, Death and Resurrection

Eph 1:20 which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places,

*Eph 3:20 Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us,*

19

## Sharing In Christ's Suffering, Death and Resurrection

Eph 3:21 to Him *be* the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations forever and ever. Amen.

20

## Sharing In Christ's Suffering, Death and Resurrection

1Pe 4:13 but to the degree that you share the sufferings of Christ, keep on rejoicing, so that also at the revelation of His glory you may rejoice with exultation.

1Pe 4:14 If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests on you.

21

## Sharing In Christ's Suffering, Death and Resurrection

1Pe 4:15 Make sure that none of you suffers as a murderer, or thief, or evildoer, or a troublesome meddler;

1Pe 4:16 but if *anyone suffers* as a Christian, he is not to be ashamed, but is to glorify God in this name.

22

## Sharing In Christ's Suffering, Death and Resurrection

Php 3:20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ;

Php 3:21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

23

## Recognize We Are Not Complete In Our Faith

Php 3:12 Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

24

## Properly Facing Past Present and Future

Php 3:13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,

Php 3:14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

25

## Properly Facing Past Present and Future

1. No vain regrets or resting on past successes
2. No despising the present but pressing forward toward the goal of being with Christ

26

## Keep Living Consistently With Knowledge We Have Attained

Php 3:15 Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;

Php 3:16 however, let us keep living by that same *standard* to which we have attained.

27

## Follow Godly Examples And Beware Of Enemies Of The Cross

Php 3:17 Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us.

Php 3:18 For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, *that they are* enemies of the cross of Christ,

Php 3:19 whose end is destruction, whose god is *their* appetite, and *whose* glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.

28

## Follow Godly Examples And Beware Of Enemies Of The Cross

1Co 11:1 Be imitators of me, just as I also am of Christ.

Rom 16:17 Now I urge you, brethren, keep your eye on those who cause dissensions and hindrances contrary to the teaching which you learned, and turn away from them.

29

## Paul Empties Himself To Gain Christ

1. Warning against false teachers Php 3:1-3
2. Paul empties himself of fleshly things to gain Christ Php 3:4-16
3. Follow godly examples and beware of enemies of the cross Php 3:17-19

30