

Archetype

(Philippians 3:1-11) Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write to you again about this is no trouble for me and is protection for you. Watch out for “dogs,” watch out for evil workers, watch out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God, boast in Christ Jesus, and do not put confidence in the flesh - although I once had confidence in the flesh too. If anyone else thinks he has grounds for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised the eighth day; of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, persecuting the church; as to the righteousness that is in the law, blameless. But everything that was a gain to me, I have considered to be a loss because of Christ. More than that, I also consider everything to be a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Because of Him I have suffered the loss of all things and consider them filth, so that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own from the law, but one that is through faith in Christ - the righteousness from God based on faith. My goal is to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, assuming that I will somehow reach the resurrection from among the dead.

THE PRIORITY

We can only have one - #1 Priority.

1. Jesus Plus Nothing Else

- A. Jesus came to replace all Old Testament ceremonies.
- B. The indwelling Holy Spirit has replaced circumcision as the proof of belonging to God.

(3:1-3) Finally, my brothers, rejoice in the Lord. To write to you again about this is no trouble for me and is protection for you. Watch out for “dogs,” watch out for evil workers, watch out for those who mutilate the flesh. For we are the circumcision, the ones who serve by the Spirit of God, boast in Christ Jesus, and do not put confidence in the flesh.

2. Jesus Over Everything Else

(3:4-9) I once had confidence in the flesh too. If anyone else thinks he has grounds for confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised the eighth day; of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, persecuting the church; as to the righteousness that is in the law, blameless. But everything that was a gain to me, I have considered to be a loss because of Christ. More than that, I also consider everything to be a loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. Because of Him I have suffered the loss of all things and consider them filth, so that I may gain Christ and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own from the law, but one that is through faith in Christ - the righteousness from God based on faith.

- A. Paul had placed his relationship with Christ over everything else in life.
- B. Over what things in my life am I willing to place Jesus?

3. Jesus In Everything Else

(3:10-11) My goal is to know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, assuming that I will somehow reach the resurrection from among the dead.

- A. I want to know Christ – in His power.
- B. I want to know Christ – in His suffering.
- C. I want to know Christ – in His death.

(show the below photo)

- D. “Trusting Jesus – It Simply Works”

