

May 21, 2017 Philippians 3:7-11 “Knowing Christ – Being Conformed to His Death”

<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>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.

Philippians 3:7-11

<sup>12</sup> But when Jesus heard *this*, He said, “*It is* not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick.

<sup>13</sup> But go and learn what this means: ‘I DESIRE COMPASSION, AND NOT SACRIFICE,’ for I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.” Matthew 9:12-13

<sup>11</sup> 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. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week; I pay tithes of all that I get.’ Luke 18:11-12

<sup>13</sup> 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!’ <sup>14</sup> 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.” Luke 18:13-14

<sup>12</sup> I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, putting me into service, <sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief; <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord was more than abundant, with the faith and love which are *found* in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost *of all*. I Timothy 1:12-15

<sup>16</sup> Yet for this reason I found mercy, so that in me as the foremost, Jesus Christ might demonstrate His perfect patience as an example for those who would believe in Him for eternal life. I Timothy 1:16

<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. Philippians 3:9

<sup>17</sup> Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, *be* honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

I Timothy 1:17

Paul wants to be conformed to the:

A. **Physical cause** of Christ’s death.

<sup>18</sup> For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory that is to be revealed to us. Romans 8:18

<sup>8</sup> Being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Philippians 2:8

Imitating Christ’s **obedience**.

<sup>19</sup> But Jews came from Antioch and Iconium, and having won over the crowds, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. <sup>20</sup> But while the disciples stood around him, he got up and entered the city. The next day he went away with Barnabas to Derbe. <sup>21</sup> After they had preached the gospel to that city and had made many disciples, they returned to Lystra and to Iconium and to Antioch, <sup>22</sup> strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and *saying*, "Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God."

Acts 14:19-22

B. **Spiritual purpose** of Christ's death.

<sup>12</sup> "This is My commandment, that you love one another, just as I have loved you. John 15:12

<sup>17</sup> This I command you, that you love one another. John 15:17

In **loving service** to the church.

<sup>28</sup> Apart from *such* external things, there is the daily pressure on me *of* concern for all the churches. <sup>29</sup> Who is weak without my being weak? Who is led into sin without my intense concern? 2 Corinthians 11:28-29

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me; may it not be counted against them.

2 Timothy 4:16

*"The most damnable and pernicious heresy that has ever plagued the mind of man is that somehow he can make himself good enough to deserve to live forever with an all-holy God."*

– Martin Luther