

The Joy of Knowing Jesus

E. Wayne Drain ~ Philippians 3:1-11

Report

- Wales/ England - 17 Salvations
- Omaha, Nebraska - 2 Salvations & Hearing restored during worship.
- The Joy Paul is taking about isn't based on what happens **TO** you. It's based on what happens **IN** you

A Reminder to Rejoice in the Lord

Phil. 3:1

- Rejoice means, "be well, be glad be full of joy."

A Repeated Word of Warning WATCH OUT!

Phil. 3:2-3

- Hebrews called Gentiles, "Dogs"
- Men who do evil or evil workers preferred a religion **about** God to a relationship **with** God.
- Mutilators of the flesh- Judaizers.
- Acts 15:1
- Gal. 6:12-15
- Christians are those who by faith in Jesus have in salvation & baptism experienced a *spiritual circumcision of the heart*.

A Remarkable Story

Phil. 3:4-6

7 Reasons he could beat Judiazers @ their own game.

1. Circumcised on 8th day - legitimate Jew from the beginning.
2. Of the people of Israel - a pure lineage.
3. Of the tribe of Benjamin.
4. A Hebrew of Hebrews - lived the life of orthodox Jews.
5. As to the Law, a Pharisee - the strictest, most orthodox and most patriotic sect in all Judaism.
6. As to zeal, a persecutor of the church.
7. As to righteousness which is in the law, faultless - Paul kept all the rules, but it wasn't enough. Religion is man's attempt to earn his way to God.

Paul speaks of Revolutionary Change

Phil. 3:7-11

- Paul speaks in business terms of profit and loss to describe his revolutionary trans-formation when he met Jesus.
- Acts 9:1-19 tells of Paul's conversion.
- To Paul, everything, every accomplishment before Christ was in the loss column.
- He only found true Joy in knowing Jesus Christ!

- What did Paul gain in Christ? He exchanged a superficial, religious righteousness based on the law for a true righteousness that God gives on the basis of faith in Jesus
- Paul gained a new power to put away sin.
- Paul gained a fellowship with Jesus based on sharing in his sufferings for living right.

Finally!

- Paul gained real hope for eternal life with God and found authentic joy.
- Jesus won't be lumped in with a saved by worked or an "any path will get you there" philosophy.
- Either Jesus is who He says He is...or He is a liar.
- John 14:6
- Romans 10:9-10