

**September 14, 2025**  
**Philippians 3:1-11**  
**“To Know Him”**

**Principles And Practical Application**

This passage is a warning against **Judaizers** who were zealous for the law of works to be right with God. It also addresses a group labeled **Antinomians** which is a fancy word describing those who are against having any law over them, especially that of God and they spin and weave a righteousness that they concoct to suit themselves. These are addressed respectively in **v 2** and **v 9**. Two extremes and neither right. Paul will use this opportunity to address these problems within church life.

Christians are the genuine circumcision. Their's is circumcision of the heart, be they Jew or Gentile. Those who are genuinely regenerated: **(1)**Worship by the Spirit of God, not by human traditions or rites. **(2)**They glory in Christ; they recognize hope is found in Christ alone, not the keeping of the Law. **(3)**They put no confidence in the flesh. This speaks of what man is outside of Christ. By putting one's trust in Christ alone, he removes any grounds for human pride or boasting. Gleaned from *Homer A. Kent Jr.*

In **verses 9-11** is found what is called topical arrangement of classical systematic theology: **(1) v9**, justification, **(2) v 10**, sanctification and **(3) v 11** glorification. Theology and life go together, the antidote to poor living is proper theology. Gleaned from *Richard R. Melick, Jr.*

A true teacher of God's Word has no fear of repetition, see **v 1**.

The exchange. Paul exchanged his former glories for a better way. When you go to the store and exchange something you don't come back home with a part of the old. That is not exchange, that is combining. Check out **II Corinthians 5:17-18**, so, in Christ we now have the ministry of reconciliation.

False repentance deals with symptoms; true repentance deals with the deadly disease of sin.

This “knowing” **v 8**, is an intimate life and love bond. I do not live any longer but Christ lives in me. Paul's writings include the words, “**in Him**” **v 9**, more than 75 times. Things repeated are things important.

That I may know Him (*tou gnōnai auton*) to have a personal acquaintance of experience with. This was Paul's passion to gain more knowledge of Christ by experience.

Paul scored 100% in the flesh scale and zero in the spiritual realm before he encountered Jesus on the road to Damascus.

**Application:**

The word rejoice is used several times in this epistle. Evidently, the church at Philippi needed such a word. Most all Christians do need a word of exhortation/encouragement. It is easy to

let circumstances discourage you. The cure for discouragement is to laser focus on the Lord and to rejoice in Him and the promises He has freely given believers. Be encouraged by this truth and share it with others, pass it on!