

Philippians 3:1-14 – The Mind of Christ Regarding Righteousness

In thinking about these verses of Philippians, remember that Paul has the mind of Christ (1 Cor. 2:16), the same mind that we are to have (2:5). These verses reveal the attitude towards righteousness which the mind of Christ produced in Paul. Think about how having the mind of Christ can improve our own attitudes.

Philippians 3:1-14

1) What is the significance of the statement “Rejoice in the Lord,” in the context of verses 1-14? What is the significance of the word “Finally” in this context?

2) What does Paul warn the Philippians to “beware” of in verse 2? Are these different threats or different descriptions of the same threat? What is the false teaching Paul is warning about?

3) What are the characteristics of the true circumcision? Where do these characteristics exist?

4) What does the term “flesh” mean as Paul uses it?

5) Before Paul became a Christian, what things would he have boasted of as proof of his righteousness? How does he now view those things?

6) As a Christian, what was Paul's attitude toward those things on which he formerly depended? What was Paul striving for?

7) Discuss Paul's use of "righteousness." What is the difference between righteousness "of the law" and "the righteousness which is from God by faith?" On what basis can God impute righteousness to us? On what condition is righteousness obtained?

8) How are we "conformed unto His death?" What does Paul mean by attaining unto the resurrection of the dead?

9) Did Paul consider himself perfected? Did he have salvation so secure it could not be lost?