

THE SURPASSING GREATNESS OF KNOWING CHRIST
Philippians 3:4-11

INTRODUCTION:

Paul confessed that his former “Gains” (vv. 7-8) were rubbish so that he might gain Christ. Having Christ as his Savior surpassed anything that he had before his conversion to Christianity. Paul lost friends, intellectual peers, his home, his social status and more to gain Christ – to know the surpassing value, wonder, worth and joy of knowing Christ Jesus.

- I. **Christians Receive the Righteousness of Christ** (v. 9)
 - A. **Self-Righteousness** – “not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law (v. 9a)
 - B. **Righteousness** “is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith” (v. 9b).
- II. **Christians Live the Sanctified Life of Christ** (v. 10)
 - A. **To know Christ is to know the power of His resurrection**
 - B. **To know Christ is to know the fellowship of His sufferings**
 - C. **To know Christ is to be made conformable to His death**
- III. **Christians Attain to the Resurrection of Christ** (v. 11)
 - A. **Paul was looking forward to the Rapture of Christ or to his (Paul’s) resurrection from the death. This should be the goal of every Christian.**
 - B. **The glorious day of resurrection will be the day when Believers will have earthly bodies transformed and recreated into perfect eternal bodies (Phil 3:20-21).**

CONCLUSION:

- A. **Knowing Christ changes how Believers value everything – our lives, families, entertainment; God and the Bible.**
- B. **It is the resurrection – power of Jesus which gives the New Life. Jesus said, “Because I live ye shall live also” (John 14:19).**
- C. **MY Hope is Built on Nothing Less**

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame but wholly lean on Jesus’ name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.

D. A-B-C of Salvation

From the Preaching Ministry of:
Pastor Carl Bennett
Corinth Christian Fellowship
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“... the word of our God shall stand for ever” (Isa 40:8).