

KNOWING THE RISEN CHRIST

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026 -- Pastor Andrew Coleman

PHILIPPIANS 3:8-11

English Standard Version (ESV)

8 *Indeed, I count everything as loss because of **the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ **9** and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— **10 that I may know Him** and **the power of His resurrection**, and **may share His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death**, **11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.***

1. Notice the supremacy of knowing Christ Jesus as Lord. vs 8, 10

- See the ultimate relationship— not religion (he had ‘*been there and done that*’.)
Paul’s goal was not merely to know about Christ.
Paul’s goal was to KNOW Christ.
Remember Acts 9:1-9 ‘**Saul**’ has the original Damascus Road experience.
His key question was... ‘Who are You, Lord?’ vs 5
Fast forward many years and miles... it was still his goal!

2. Notice the utter worthlessness of all other ambitions and accolades.

vs 8 *I count everything as loss, I suffered the loss of all things, I count them as rubbish*

- See the contrast that is made: Things Temporal vs Things Eternal.
1 CORINTHIANS 4:17-18 “*we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal.*”

3. Notice that true saving faith renounces self-righteousness and receives God’s righteousness in Christ Jesus. vs 9

- See another contrast that is made:
 - A righteousness of my own (law-keeping, morality, religion) → rejected by God
 - A righteousness from God (through faith in Christ) → accepted by God

Key Truth:

Salvation is **not** achieved— salvation is received!

It is **credited** through faith because of Christ’s finished work on the cross.

We transfer faith in our works to His work.

vs 9 *the righteousness from God that depends on faith*

8 *Indeed, I count everything as loss because of **the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord**. For His sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ **9** and be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith— **10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and may share His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death, 11 that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.***

4. Paul wanted **CHRIST** and **HIS RESURRECTION POWER** in his life. vs 8

“That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection...”

- This is not only at the end of his earthly life but also during his earthly life.
Romans 6:4 *We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.*
- This new life has new power!
Romans 6:11 *In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.*

5. In a fallen world Christians enjoy the privilege of sharing in Christ’s sufferings.

vs 10 *and that I may share His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death*

- Paul so loved Christ that he wanted to be counted and identified with Christ.

HEBREWS 11:24

24 By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, 25 choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. 26 He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

6. The ULTIMATE QUEST: Resurrection with Christ! vs 11

that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead

- There is nothing wrong with wanting to live!
- Only a fool embraces eternal destruction.
- Christ offers to all who will come to Him eternal life.

Paul shows us that we have God’s resurrection life through FAITH IN CHRIST.

Faith in Jesus’s sacrifice for your sins is God’s ONLY PLAN for salvation.

We are called to TURN FROM SIN/SELF and BELIEVE IN HIM.

JOHN 6:37 — Jesus said...

***All that the Father gives Me will come to Me,
and whoever comes to Me I will never cast out.***