

The Power of the Resurrection

Philippians 3:10

Introduction

- The Philippians had seemingly not yet been swayed by the ever-present Judaizers, but Paul still wanted to encourage them to remain faithful.
 - The false teachers were putting their confidence in the flesh, which resulted in an undisciplined life.
 - Unlike the Judaizers, the desire of Paul (and of those who followed his example) was to know Jesus and the power of his resurrection.
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Warning

- Having urged the Philippians to rejoice in the Lord, Paul vehemently warned them against false teachers (Judaizers) – Philippians 3:1–2; see vv. 18–19.
 - Paul sarcastically referred to the Judaizers as dogs, evil workers, and the mutilation – vv. 2–3; Matthew 7:6; Galatians 3:10; Leviticus 21:5.
 - The Philippians needed to watch out lest they cast away their confidence – Philippians 3:2–3.
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Confidence

- Paul reminded the Philippians that their confidence was not in the flesh but in their new identity in Jesus Christ – Philippians 3:3; cf. Ephesians 3:11–12.
 - To illustrate the vanity of fleshly gains, Paul described how he viewed himself and his accomplishments post-conversion – Philippians 3:4–7, 12–17.
 - The new goal of Paul was only that he might to know, gain, and be found in the Lord – vv. 8–9.
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Goal

- Paul realized that knowing Christ required a new kind of righteousness, not one that was attained by fleshly works but by faith – Philippians 3:9.
 - Justification is that Jesus forgives and accepts sinners so that they can come to know him – v. 9; see Romans 5:1–2.
 - Having been justified, Paul knew Christ, that is, he was experiencing the power of Jesus's resurrection and sharing in his sufferings – Philippians 3:10.
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Resurrection

- The resurrection of Jesus is the basis of our relationship with God and only as we participate in it will we be saved us from our sins – Romans 6:3–4.
 - The same power that raised Jesus from the dead is available to us as we put our trust in the Lord – Ephesians 1:19–20; see 3:7, 16, 20.
 - We will fully experience this power when God raises us up and brings us to heaven – Philippians 3:10–11, 20–21.
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