



I'll Make that Trade (Philippians 3:1-11)

All for Christ

“Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. For me to write the same things to you is not tedious, but for you it is safe. **Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation! For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so:** circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. **But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.** Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and **count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ** and be found in Him, **not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through**

faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; that I may know Him and the **power of His resurrection,** and the **fellowship of His sufferings,** being **conformed to His death,** if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead."

Philippians 3:1-11 NKJV

Philippians 3:1-11

☑ *"Beware of **dogs**, beware of **evil workers**, beware of the **mutilation!**" Philippians 3:2 NKJV*

☑ **Beware of the mutilation**

☑ **The Controversy:** "And certain men came down from Judea and taught the brethren, "**Unless you are circumcised according to the custom of Moses, you cannot be saved.**" Therefore, when Paul and Barnabas had no small dissension and dispute with them, they determined that Paul and Barnabas and certain others of them should go up to Jerusalem, to the apostles and elders, about this question. So, being sent on their way by the church, they passed through Phoenicia and Samaria, describing the conversion of the Gentiles; and they caused great joy to all the brethren. And when they had come to Jerusalem, they were received by the church and the apostles and the elders; and they reported all

things that God had done with them. But some of the sect of the Pharisees who believed rose up, saying, “**It is necessary to circumcise them, and to command them to keep the law of Moses.**”” Acts 15:1-5 NKJV

☑ **The Gospel+**: “I marvel that you are turning away so soon from Him who called you in the grace of Christ, to a **different gospel**, which is not another; but there are some who trouble you and want to **pervert the gospel** of Christ.” Galatians 1:6-7 NKJV

☑ **Adding anything to Christ—Spying out our Liberty**: “Yet not even Titus who was with me, being a Greek, was **compelled to be circumcised**. And **this occurred because of false brethren secretly brought in (who came in by stealth to spy out our liberty** which we have in Christ Jesus, that they might bring us **into bondage**), to whom we did not yield submission even for an hour, that the truth of the gospel might continue with you.” Galatians 2:3-5 NKJV

☑ **Adding anything to Christ is WORKS of law**: “O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus **Christ** was clearly portrayed among you as **crucified**? This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the

works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?" Galatians 3:1-3 NKJV

☑ **Don't look at Christ, look at me:** "They zealously court you, but for no good; yes, they want to exclude you, that you may be **zealous for them.**" Galatians 4:17 NKJV

☑ **Context—to be saved:** "Indeed I, Paul, say to you that **if you become circumcised [to be saved!]**, Christ will profit you nothing. And I testify again to every man who **becomes circumcised [to be saved]** that he is a debtor **to keep the whole law [to be saved].**" Galatians 5:2-3 NKJV

☑ "And I, brethren, if **I still preach circumcision [to be saved]**, why do I still suffer persecution? Then the offense of the cross has ceased. **I could wish that those who trouble you would even cut themselves off! [circumcise themselves AGAIN—Ouch!]**" Galatians 5:11-12 NKJV

☑ *"For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh, though **I also might have confidence in the flesh.** If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, **I more so:** circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a*

*Pharisee; concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, **blameless.**"* Philippians 3:3-6 NKJV

☑ **Paul's Pedigree**

- ☑ "Brethren and fathers, hear my defense before you now." And when they heard that he spoke to them in the Hebrew language, they kept all the more silent. Then he said: "I am indeed a Jew, born in Tarsus of Cilicia, but **brought up in this city at the feet of Gamaliel, taught according to the strictness of our fathers' law,** and was zealous toward God as you all are today." Acts 22:1-3

☑ **Doers of Law—obedience from the heart!**

- ☑ "For as many as have sinned without law will also perish without law, and as many as have sinned in the law will be judged by the law (**for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the doers of the law will be justified;** for when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do the things in the law, these, although not having the law, are a law to themselves, **who show the work of the law written in their hearts,** their conscience also bearing witness, and between themselves their thoughts accusing or else excusing them) in the day

when God will judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ, according to my gospel.” Romans 2:12-16 NKJV

☑ **The Law is not the problem, it’s the hypocrisy of those who say they are obeying, but instead are breaking it!**

☑ “Indeed you are called a Jew, and rest on the law, and make your boast in God, and know His will, **and approve the things that are excellent, being instructed out of the law**, and are confident that you yourself are a guide to the blind, a light to those who are in darkness, an instructor of the foolish, a teacher of babes, having the form of knowledge and truth in the law. You, **therefore, who teach another, do you not teach yourself?** You who preach that a man should not steal, do you steal? You who say, “Do not commit adultery,” do you commit adultery? You who abhor idols, do you rob temples? **You who make your boast in the law, do you dishonor God through breaking the law?** For “the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you,” as it is written.” Romans 2:17-24 NKJV

☑ **Get your eyes off the flesh and onto the heart!**

☑ **“For circumcision is indeed profitable if you keep the law; but if you are a breaker of the law, your circumcision has become uncircumcision.** Therefore, if

an uncircumcised man keeps the righteous requirements of the law, **will not his uncircumcision be counted as circumcision?** And will not the **physically uncircumcised, if he fulfills the law**, judge you who, even with your written code and circumcision, are a transgressor of the law? **For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh; but he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that of the heart, in the Spirit**, not in the letter; whose praise is not from men but from God.” Romans 2:25-29 NKJV

☑ *“But what things were gain to me, these **I have counted loss for Christ.** Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for **whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ**” Philippians 3:7-8 NKJV*

☑ **Seek first the Kingdom**

☑ **Fix your eyes on the things of greatest importance:**

“Therefore I say to you, **do not worry about your life**, what you will eat or what you will drink; nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? **Look at the birds** of the air, for they neither sow nor reap nor gather into

barns; yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? **Which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?** “So why do you worry about clothing? **Consider the lilies of the field**, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; and yet I say to you that even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these. Now if God so clothes the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will He not much more clothe you, O you of little faith?

“Therefore do not worry, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For after all these things the Gentiles seek. For your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about its own things. Sufficient for the day is its own trouble.” Matthew 6:25-34 NKJV

I count all great things from my past a loss and happily leave them behind as rubbish!

What does it take to be a disciple? “Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them, “If anyone comes to Me and **does not hate his**

father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple. And **whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple.** For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not sit down first and count the cost, whether he has enough to finish it — lest, after he has laid the foundation, and is not able to finish, all who see it begin to mock him, saying, ‘This man began to build and was not able to finish’? Or what king, going to make war against another king, does not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to meet him who comes against him with twenty thousand? Or else, while the other is still a great way off, he sends a delegation and asks conditions of peace. So likewise, **whoever of you does not forsake all that he has cannot be My disciple.** “Salt is good; but if the salt has lost its flavor, how shall it be seasoned? It is neither fit for the land nor for the dunghill, but men throw it out. **He who has ears to hear, let him hear!”**”

Luke 14:25-35 NKJV

- When comparing anything to Christ...
- Hate anyone and anything
- Take on any persecution

- ☑ Forsake everything including your own life

- ☑ *“and be found in Him, **not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith;**”* *Philippians 3:9 NKJV*

☑ **No one is righteous (on his own)**

- ☑ “But we are all like an unclean thing, And all our righteousnesses are like **filthy rags**; We all fade as a leaf, And our iniquities, like the wind, Have taken us away.”
Isaiah 64:6 NKJV

☑ **Knowing His Law has it advantage, but don't, for a moment, think you can do it within HIS**

RIGHTEOUSNESS: “What advantage then has the Jew, or what is the profit of circumcision? Much in every way! Chiefly **because to them were committed the oracles of God.** For what if some did not believe? Will their unbelief make the faithfulness of God without effect? Certainly not! Indeed, let God be true but every man a liar. As it is written: “That You may be justified in Your words, And may overcome when You are judged.” But if our unrighteousness demonstrates the righteousness of God, what shall we say? Is God unjust

who inflicts wrath? (I speak as a man.) Certainly not! For then how will God judge the world? **For if the truth of God has increased through my lie to His glory**, why am I also still judged as a sinner? And why not say, “Let us do evil that good may come”—as we are slanderously reported and as some affirm that we say. Their condemnation is just. What then? Are we better than they? Not at all. For we have previously charged both Jews and Greeks that they are all under sin. As it is written: **“There is none righteous, no, not one; There is none who understands; There is none who seeks after God. They have all turned aside; They have together become unprofitable; There is none who does good, no, not one.”**” Romans 3:1-12 NKJV

Righteousness of the Law vs. Righteousness of Faith

The Righteousness of the Law

- Warning—once you enter the Promised Land:** Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: ‘I am the LORD your God. According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, **you shall not do**; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do; nor shall you walk in their ordinances. **You shall**

observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them: I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, **which if a man does, he shall live by them:** I am the LORD.”

Leviticus 18:1-5 NKJV



Driven out and then brought back as their hearts

become circumcised—predicted even before they

stepped foot into the Promised Land: ““Now it shall

come to pass, when all these things come upon you, the blessing and the curse which I have set before you, and

you call them to mind among all the nations where the

LORD your God drives you, and you return to the

LORD your God and obey His voice, according to all

that I command you today, you and your children, with

all your heart and with all your soul, that the LORD

your God will bring you back from captivity, and have

compassion on you, and gather you again from all the

nations where the LORD your God has scattered you. If

any of you are driven out to the farthest parts under

heaven, from there **the LORD your God will gather**

you, and from there He will bring you. Then the LORD

your God will bring you to the land which your fathers

possessed, and you shall possess it. He will prosper you

and multiply you more than your fathers. And the LORD your **God will circumcise your heart** and the heart of your descendants, to love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live." Deuteronomy 30:1-6 NKJV

With the right heart, Yahweh's commands are not considered difficult: ""For **this commandment which I command you today is not too mysterious [difficult] for you, nor is it far off. It is not in heaven**, that you should say, 'Who will ascend into heaven for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' **Nor is it beyond the sea**, that you should say, 'Who will go over the sea for us and bring it to us, that we may hear it and do it?' **But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it.**" Deuteronomy 30:11-14 NKJV

- What were Yahweh's people warned about BEFORE they entered the land of promise?
- What were they commanded to do?
- What were they promised if they did obey?
- Would you consider those promises a good thing?
- What is Yahweh teaching His children about their ultimate ability to keep His commandments?

- ☑ What does it mean to you that, “the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, that you may do it?”

☑ **The Righteousness of Faith**

- ☑ Let’s see what it means as the scholar of the New Testament (Paul) teaches us from Leviticus 18 and Deuteronomy 30!
- ☑ “Brethren, my heart’s desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they may be saved. For I bear them witness that they have a zeal for God, **but not according to knowledge**. For they being ignorant of God’s righteousness, and seeking to establish their own righteousness, **have not submitted to the righteousness of God**. For Christ is the end **[goal]** of the law for righteousness to everyone who believes. For **Moses writes about the righteousness which is of the law, “The man who does those things shall live by them. [See Leviticus 18:1-5 where Moses writes this]”** But **[And, moreover, therefore]** the **righteousness of faith speaks in this way, “Do not say in your heart, ‘Who will ascend into heaven?’ ”** (that is, **to bring Christ down** from above) or, “ **‘Who will descend into the abyss?’ ”** (that is, **to bring Christ up** from the dead).

But what does it say? **“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, the word of faith which we preach):**” Romans 10:1-8 NKJV

- ☑ **“that if** you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9 NKJV
- ☑ What was the key glitch in the Israelites knowledge about righteousness?
- ☑ When Pauls refers to Leviticus 18 here, what is he saying will give them life—obeying Yahweh’s commandments with Christ’s righteousness or ignoring them as they are no longer relevant?
- ☑ Paul continues to refer to more of Moses’ writings in Deuteronomy 30, alluding to them as the “righteousness of faith.” How does he compare the Law to Christ?
- ☑ In Deuteronomy 30:14 it says: *“But the word is very near you, in your mouth and in your heart, **that you may do it.**”* In Romans 10:8 it says: *“The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart” (that is, **the word of faith which we preach**):*”
- ☑ Paul is saying that keeping Yahweh’s commandments IS THE WORD OF FAITH HE IS

PREACHING. What follows in the next verse are Paul's Directions for HOW TO DO THAT! *"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved."* Romans 10:9

- ☑ The word of faith which is the righteousness of the law is fulfilled by those who confess Y'shua as Lord and Savior. Y'shua is not our excuse or loophole to not obey His Father's commands, but rather the inspiration and empowerment to be radically obedient to them!
- ☑ **The righteousness of the law is accomplished through the righteousness of faith**
- ☑ "Where is boasting then? It is excluded. By what law? Of works? No, but by the law of faith. **Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith apart from the deeds of the law.** Or is He the God of the Jews only? Is He not also the God of the Gentiles? Yes, of the Gentiles also, **since there is one God who will justify the circumcised by faith and the uncircumcised through faith. [the righteousness of faith that makes you willing and able to obey Yahweh's commandments!]** Do we then make void

the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.” Romans 3:27-31 NKJV

- ☑ The law is not annulled by faith; our ability to keep the law is empowered by faith.
- ☑ **Doing the Law:** “(for not the hearers of the law are just in the sight of God, but the **doers of the law** will be justified;” Romans 2:13 NKJV
- ☑ **Works of Deed of Law:** “Therefore by the **deeds of the law no flesh will be justified** in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.” Romans 3:20 NKJV
- ☑ What is the distinction you need to make between what it means to be a “doer of the law” or someone who lives by “works of law”?

- ☑ *“that **I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.**”* Philippians 3:10-11 NKJV
- ☑ **That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection**
- ☑ **Power:** “Therefore I also, after I heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all the saints, do not cease to give thanks for you, making mention of you in my

prayers: that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the **eyes of your understanding being enlightened**; that you may **know what is the hope of His calling**, what are **the riches of the glory of His inheritance** in the saints, and what is the **exceeding greatness of His power toward us** who believe, according to the working of **His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead** and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all." Ephesians 1:15-23

☑ **That I may know Him and the fellowship of His sufferings**

☑ **No Suffering—No Kingdom:** "Then Jews from Antioch and Iconium came there; and having persuaded the multitudes, they stoned Paul and dragged him out of the city, supposing him to be dead. However, when the disciples gathered around him, he rose up and went into the city. And the next day he departed with Barnabas to

Derbe. And when they had preached the gospel to that city and made many disciples, they returned to Lystra, Iconium, and Antioch, strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, **“We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.”**” Acts 14:19-22 NKJV

☑ **If it was good for Y’shua it is good for you!**

☑ “For it was fitting for Him, for whom are all things and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons to glory, **to make the captain of their salvation perfect through sufferings.**” Hebrews 2:10 NKJV

☑ ““If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you. Remember the word that I said to you, ‘A servant is not greater than his master.’ **If they persecuted Me, they will also persecute you.** If they kept My word, they will keep yours also.” John 15:18-20 NKJV

☑ “For I consider **that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory** which shall be revealed in us.” Romans 8:18 NKJV

☑ **That I may know Him be conformed to His death and attain to His resurrection**

☑ “Moreover the law entered that the offense might abound. But where sin abounded, grace abounded much more, so that as sin reigned in death, **even so grace might reign through righteousness** to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 5:20-21 NKJV

☑ **If you die with Him you will resurrect with Him:** “What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin that grace may abound? Certainly not! How shall we who died to sin live any longer in it? **Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.** For if we have been **united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,** knowing this, that our **old man was crucified** with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. For **he who has died has been freed from sin.** Now **if we died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with**

Him, knowing that Christ, having been raised from the dead, dies no more. Death no longer has dominion over Him. For the death that He died, He died to sin once for all; but the life that He lives, He lives to God. **Likewise you also, reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord.** Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body, that you should obey it in its lusts. And do not present your members as instruments of unrighteousness to sin, **but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead**, and your members as **instruments of righteousness** to God. For sin shall not have dominion over you, for you are not under law but under grace.” Romans 6:1-14 NKJV

☑ **“What then? Shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace? Certainly not!** Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one’s slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?”

Romans 6:15-16 NKJV

☑ **“Do we then make void the law through faith? Certainly not! On the contrary, we establish the law.”** Romans 3:31 NKJV

NEXT WEEK

The Upward Call (Philippians 3:12-21)