

Where Does True Righteousness Come From

Philippians 3:1-21 (Part II) vv.4-6

- How can we come before the living God? Do we stand on solid ground?
- Is it what we have done? Or what God did for us that we are accepted?
- Early church Judaizers believed Gentile Christians = circumcised
- Paul firstly I) Exhortation: Rejoice in the Lord Alone (3:1)
II) Paul gives A Serious Warning: False Circumcision 3:2
III) Paul draws a Sharp Contrast: True Circumcision 3:3

IV. Paul Makes a Comparison: Himself and the Judaizers (3:4-6)

- Vs 4 though I also might have confidence in the flesh
- If anyone could boast/ be confident about their flesh it was Paul
- The Judaizers could not compare to Paul's pedigree and zeal
- If 'anyone' whoever followed their example, could not compare to Paul
- Paul uses "flesh" twice to emphasize – no power/ no adequacy here
- If came down to flesh, I "more so" than any could boast! Why Paul?

Paul's pure Jewish Pedigree

- a) Circumcised on the eighth day
- b) Of the stock of Israel
- c) Of the tribe of Benjamin
- d) A Hebrew of Hebrews

Paul's choice to follow the law

- a) As to the Law: a Pharisee (Acts 26:5)
- b) As to zeal: persecuting the church (Acts 7:52; 8:13; 9:1-2; Gal 4:28)
- c) As to righteousness: blameless (Gal 1:14)