

I Want to Know Christ!
Philippians 3:4-11

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1. In writing to the Christians at Philippi, the apostle Paul makes some amazing statements. Paul had come to realize that if you have all the things of the world, but you don't have Christ, you are poor indeed.
 2. It seems that is a message the church needs to hear today.
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- I. Paul Had Some Real Personal Assets. Philippians 3:4, "If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless."
 - A. If anybody could have Jesus plus his religion, it was Paul.
 - B. What about us? What kind of accomplishments do we glory in?
 - II. Compared To Knowing Christ, All Accomplishments Diminish. Philippians 3:7-8 "But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ."
 - A. Life's assets of achievement and inheritance are real.
 - B. The reason for this reevaluation is "the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord."
 - III. I Want To Know Christ. Philippians 3:10-11, "I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead."
 - A. Paul first says, "I want to know Christ and the power of His resurrection..."
 - B. But Paul didn't stop there. He said, "I want to know Christ... and the fellowship of sharing in His sufferings..." (v. 10)
 - C. Finally, Paul says this, "I want to know Christ... by becoming like Him in His death, and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead."