

The Most Valuable Pursuit

Scripture Reference: Philippians 3:4-11

In this passage Paul answers the question that everyone on Earth has:

"How do I _____ in such a way ... that HE lets me go
_____?"

I. Paul stated that he had the perfect _____ to please GOD. **V.4**

1. His devout parents dedicated him to GOD by the _____ of _____ on the 8th day after his birth. **V.5** Gen. 17:10-14, Lev. 12:3
2. He was proudly from the tribe of the first Israelite king, _____, which also was one of the two clans that stayed loyal to the family of King David, _____, during civil war. I Kings 12:21
3. Paul was a stellar example of his Jewish faith, a _____. He was a direct descendent of _____, Issac, and Jacob.
4. If anyone could be said to be _____ as an outward example of following the Law of GOD (the _____) ... it was Paul. He was a _____, the best of the best.
5. The highest virtue in any religion is _____, and no one had more zeal against the _____ of Judaism than Paul. **V.6** He persecuted the _____, the followers of this Messianic _____, JESUS CHRIST.

II. Then everything _____ when Paul came to know CHRIST JESUS, his LORD. **V.7-8**

1. Everything he _____ and valued previously, now had little meaning.
2. He used _____ terms in this analogy. Everything he thought that he had _____ previously over decades of _____, now had little value. They were like _____ to him, because they had no Eternal meaning.
3. But on the other side of the _____, Paul found the surpassing, the exceptional, the far-superior _____. JESUS CHRIST. This was the real gain.
4. He paid a _____ for this transaction, this gain. **V.8 "suffered"**
5. The most amazing part of this transaction was that he found that he could _____ to gain access to Heaven by his performance. This _____ came only through _____ in CHRIST alone. **V.9**

III. So because of the _____ of Salvation (the above)
Paul found as a Gift by receiving CHRIST ... what then was his
_____? **V. 10**

1. That I might _____. The greatest adventure in life is the
quest to know GOD _____. Jeremiah 29:13
Mt. 13:44 – Nothing else compares.
2. That I might know the _____.
We can't _____ without HIS help and HIS power. John 15:5
3. That I might know the _____. We need to join HIM
in the things HE _____ about. We should hurt over the things
_____. Isaiah 6:1-8
4. That I might be conformed to the _____.
What in you ... _____? Galatians 2:20
5. That by any means _____, I may attain the Resurrection
from the dead. **V. 11**
 - A. This is not an _____ by Paul.
 - B. It was a sincere expression of deep _____, implying, "I certainly do not
_____ forgiveness and Salvation because I _____
the Church of my Savior." **V. 6**, Acts 7-8

Ephesians 2:8-10

