

BY HEART

When Scripture becomes second nature

Philippians 3:7-16 | Page 1673

Philippians 3:7-11

“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 and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. 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.”

Philippians 3:12-16

“Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus. All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. Only let us live up to what we have already attained.”

Last Week:

**Justification is the state of being
counted righteous by God
in Christ,
through faith,
apart from works.**

Justifying faith motivates
passion, surrender, longing and
courage in and for Christ.

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Justifying Faith

Can our faith save if it
accomplished nothing?
If there is no fruit?

1 Cor. 3:13-15 “through the fire”
Mark 4:19/Matt. 13:22- “thorns”
2 Peter 1:6- “ineffective...”
John 10:28-29 “snatch them...”

Saving Faith produces fruit.
Salvation is not from works,
but salvation always
produces fruit.

Matt. 7:23- “Lord, Lord”
Luke 13:7
Matt. 25:32ff – Sheep/goats
Heb. 6 – “lose salvation”
1 Cor. 15 “believed in Vain”
2 Peter 1:10- “never fall”
Phil. 2:12- “fear and
trembling”
Rev 5x- “to he who
overcomes...”

Assurance of faith comes...

Not Just from...

- Profession of faith in Jesus (which can be a false +)

Not from:

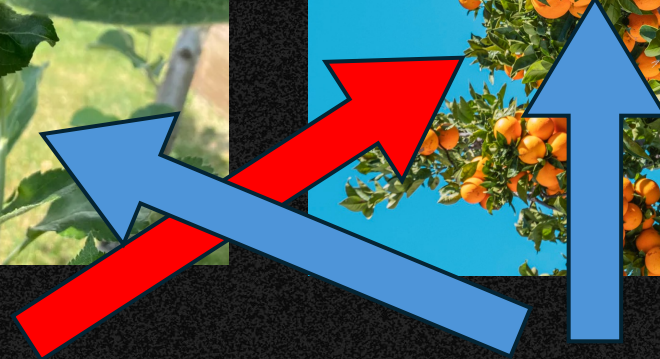
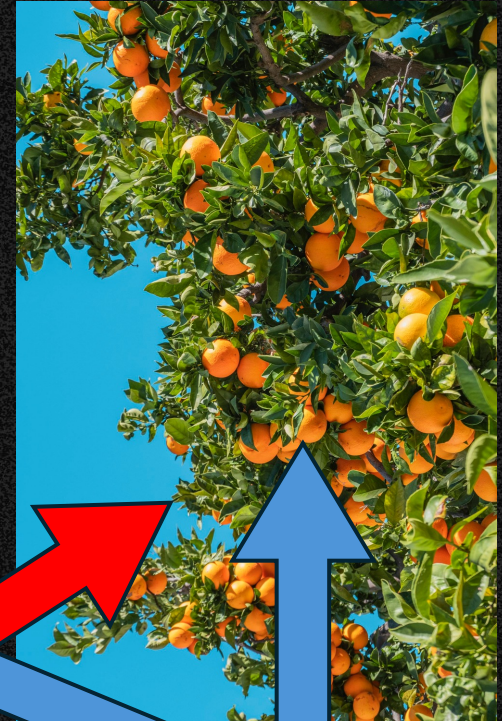
- Knowledge of God's secret election (Which you can't know)
- Perseverance- since you can't know that till the end. It can be a negative test, but not one that permanently reassures.

But also from...

Evidence of Grace

- 1 John: Profess Christ, love the brothers, not love the world
- Does not "continue" to sin- unabated and presumptuously
- "making every effort" toward godliness- 2 Peter 1
- Spiritual desire for God, God's will and godliness
- Active love expressed in virtue and service

Real vs. Rich: Evidence of Life?



Assurance doesn't come from having **Rich** faith, but from **Real** faith

Assurance's "open loop" is for...

Not:

- The naturally anxious (second-guessing-energy-burners)
- Those struggling in infirmity (weakened & wounded)

Those:

- Presumptuous about having real faith
- Those aiming for the lowest acceptable quality of faith

2 Corinthians 13:5-6, 11

"Examine yourselves to see whether you are in the faith; test yourselves. Do you not know that Christ Jesus is in you- unless of course, you fail the test?...Aim for perfection...and the God of love and peace will be with you."

Justifying faith motivates
passion, surrender, longing and
courage in and for Christ.

1. Justifying faith motivates passion for Christ

Passion-

The **burning desire to be part of** something great that gives you the strength to **persevere** and make every effort **to do it well.**

Philippians 1:21 (manner worthy of Gospel of Christ)

"For me live is Christ and to die is gain."

Philippians 2:1 (real humility and service)

"If you have any encouragement from being united with Christ, any comfort of his love, if any fellowship with the Spirit, if any tenderness and compassion..."

Philippians 3:10 (know the righteousness of God)

"I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings..."

Terror unto
cowardice

Fanaticism unto
destruction

Passion to love
the good even
unto losing it in
this world

Conceited
vanity

Selfish
Ambition

Passion to serve
people by serving
God, who glorifies
the humble

Legalism: To get everything right

Persecute: To make everyone do it right



Passion to receive
God's righteousness
and live in it by faith

2. Justifying faith frees our will to surrender to Christ

Surrender-

Letting go of what isn't an asset toward your goal. The focusing power of seeing beyond simple value- to comparative value in pursuing your passion.

To Justifying faith: the goal/passion is knowing Christ, gaining Christ, being "found in him"- union with Christ: experiencing who he is through what he does.

Philippians 3:7-9

*“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** and **be found in him**, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.”*

Application:

1. Being surrendered means being unconflicted. Not passive.
2. Surrender is not “purgation” only- it is losing the good
3. The key is: “Counting it as rubbish is the faith that gains Christ.”
4. Also:

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

“What I mean, brothers, is that the time is short. From now on those who have wives should live as if they had none; those who mourn, as if they did not; those who are happy, as if they were not; those who buy something, as if it were not theirs to keep; those who use the things of the world, as if not engrossed in them. For this world in its present form is passing away.”

3. Justifying faith evokes longing for union with Christ

Longing-

Desire to experience the fulfilling union with a person with whom you feel a gravity more powerful than your choice, but plums the depth of your nature, experiences and hope.

In Justifying Faith, this is **union with Christ himself**, from **spiritual participation** unto **final resurrection** and glorification

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.”

4. Justifying faith
gives courage
to embrace Christ's way

Courage-

An active, **surrendering** desire to face any fear or obstacle that would inhibit progress toward your goal, **passion** and **longing**.

In Justifying Faith, this means facing what you fear in order to be with Christ.

Philippians 3:12-14

*“Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but **I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.** Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: **Forgetting what is behind and straining towards what is ahead, I press on towards the goal to win the prize** for which God has called me heavenwards in Christ Jesus.”*

Addressing Lack:

Works Righteousness vs. Grace through faith

Works- try harder, do more, feel bad, get angry, quit...

Grace- Look closer at Jesus in humility and honesty, and at what he has said and done. Make Jesus the subject of your attention. See the Gospel deeper.

Philippians 1:9-11

*“And this is my prayer: that **your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight**, so that you may be **able to discern** what is best and may **be pure and blameless** until the day of Christ, **filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ**—to the glory and praise of God.”*

sh man house. The in came down the st is rose, and the
s blew against the house, and it fell with a great crash." - Matthew
-27 "He told them this parable: "No one tears a piece of a new garment to patch
old one. Otherwise, they will have torn the new garment, and the patch from the new
will not match the old." - Luke 5:36 "Neither do people pour new wine into old
skins. If they do, the skins will burst; the wine will run out and the wineskins
will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins, and both are preserved."
Matthew 9:17 Then he told them many things in parables, saying: "A farmer went out to
his seed. As he was scattering the seed, some fell along the path, and the birds
came and ate it up. Some fell on rocky places, where it did not have much soil. It
sprang up quickly, because the soil was shallow. But when the sun came up, the plants
were scorched, and they withered because they had no root. Other seed fell among
thorns, which grew up and choked the plants. Still other seed fell on good soil, where
it produced a crop - a hundred, sixty or thirty times what was sown." - Matthew 13:3-9
Then he answered, "because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat
with them. Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the
angels: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather
the wheat and bring it into my barn." - Matthew 13:24-30 He told them another parable
saying: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed, which a man took and planted in his
field. Though it is the smallest of all seeds, yet when it grows, it is the largest
of garden plants and becomes a tree, so that the birds come and perch in its
branches." - Matthew 13:31-32 Again he asked, "What shall I compare the kingdom of
heaven to? It is like yeast that a woman took and mixed into about sixty pounds of flour
until the dough was leavened." - Luke 13:20-21 "The kingdom of heaven is like a man
who hid treasure in the field. When he found it, he hid it again, and then
went and bought more land. Then he went and hid more treasure. And when he
went home, he found seven more men who had hidden treasure. He said to them,
'Follow me, and I will make you men who have treasure hidden in the field. When
you have found the treasure, you must sell everything you have and buy the field
of treasure. Then when you have bought the field, dig it up, for the treasure is
hidden there. When you have dug it up and found the treasure, you must then
sell everything you have and buy that field of treasure.' - Matthew 13:44-46

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