

Religion versus Relationship

Philippians 3 (p.1,082)

There is an error that has so permeated Christianity that it is hard to escape. To err on this issue is, at best, so disheartening and, at worst, eternal condemnation.

A. Confusion about Relationship with God. 3:1-3

What is Paul going to repeat?

The good news of divine forgiveness and relationship with God.

B. External Deeds cannot establish Relationship with God. 3:4-8

Paul's impressive list of good works:

1. Religious pedigree.
2. Strict doctrinal training. (Mt.23:27-28)
3. Religious zeal.
4. Strict religious obedience.

All such things are filth. (Mt.7:21)

What good works might we look to in hopes of being saved?

1. Prayer / Baptism / Catechism. (Is.29:13)
2. Moral living. (Is.64:6; Ro.3:20)
3. Scriptural knowledge. (Heb.4:2)

Religion versus Relationship

Philippians 3 (p.1,082)

There is an error that has so permeated Christianity that it is hard to escape. To err on this issue is, at best, so disheartening and, at worst, eternal condemnation.

A. Confusion about Relationship with God. 3:1-3

What is Paul going to repeat?

The good news of divine forgiveness and relationship with God.

B. External Deeds cannot establish Relationship with God. 3:4-8

Paul's impressive list of good works:

1. Religious pedigree.
2. Strict doctrinal training. (Mt.23:27-28)
3. Religious zeal.
4. Strict religious obedience.

All such things are filth. (Mt.7:21)

What good works might we look to in hopes of being saved?

1. Prayer / Baptism / Catechism. (Is.29:13)
2. Moral living. (Is.64:6; Ro.3:20)
3. Scriptural knowledge. (Heb.4:2)

C. Trust in Christ is the only way to Relationship with God.

3:8-11

Eph.1:5; Jn.1:12

Relationship with God involves:

1. The power of His resurrection;
2. The fellowship of His **sufferings**.

Think about the words of this classic hymn that point to faith alone in Christ alone.

-Edward Mote (1797-1874)

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, and blood support me in the whelming flood;
When every earthly prop gives way, He then is all my Hope and Stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne!
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

C. Trust in Christ is the only way to Relationship with God.

3:8-11

Eph.1:5; Jn.1:12

Relationship with God involves:

1. The power of His resurrection;
2. The fellowship of His **sufferings**.

Think about the words of this classic hymn that point to faith alone in Christ alone.

-Edward Mote (1797-1874)

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, His covenant, and blood support me in the whelming flood;
When every earthly prop gives way, He then is all my Hope and Stay.
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne!
On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.