

Refrigerator Notes 08 October 2017

“Getting To Heaven”

Philippians 3:1-14

1. Paul writes to the church in Philippi to encourage them to rejoice in their trials and be considerate of one another
2. Paul is encouraging the church to shore up their faith and exhorts them to do the hard work that is called for in the church (p), if you want to get to heaven
3. Paul is telling them that they need faith to get into heaven, but they need to allow others to see that the church is in them and not tell them how much you do for the church
4. Paul reminds them that their salvation is not by works alone, but he exhorts them to work in the church to draw others to Jesus (our chief mission in the church is to make disciples out of all nations)
5. Paul even issues a stern warning to watch out for those who are not in the church who would lead them astray
6. Paul tells them that circumcision of the flesh is not needed to have faith, but those who have faith in Christ have the circumcision of the heart is what counts
7. Our hope is built on nothing less than Jesus Christ and the salvation Jesus offers to those who are willing to accept it
8. Faith is obtainable when our confidence rests in knowing who is our Savior; Christ
9. In order to drive home his point, Paul elaborates on all the things he had done in being a good Jew; Paul says later, his earlier works amounted to mere rubbish and was worthless when it came to claiming his salvation
10. Paul wanted something far more valuable than anything Judaism could offer; Christ
11. Paul mentioned that he has gone from being a respected rabbi, to being a persecuted apostle, for one reason only: he is persuaded that Christ is the truth, the way and the life
12. Paul tells us, "But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ" (3:7) - He counts those things done as spiritually valueless
13. Because you are saved today does not mean you get into heaven tomorrow; you must show yourself approved and be an imitator of Christ Jesus
14. On judgment day, Paul wants to be found in Christ, "not having a righteousness of his own that comes from keeping the commandments, but that which is through faith in Christ — the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith" (3:9)
15. Paul's goal is to know Christ and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like Christ in his death, and being able to attain the resurrection for eternal living (3:10-11)
16. Paul wants to share in Christ's glory and share in Christ resurrection to obtain heaven
17. Not that Paul will earn salvation through his sufferings, but that through faith he shall be united in Christ, including his crucifixion and death (Rom. 6:3-6)
18. Too many of us want the rewards of heaven but we don't want to do the work that it takes to get into heaven!
19. That work starts by leading others to Christ!
20. The real question sisters and brothers are you willing to die for Christ or for your fleshly ways that are not of Christ?