

# Philippians 3

Sunday 4/16/2017

Amen. Thanks, guys. That is a great song. His wounds have paid my ransom. If you have your Bibles, go ahead and turn to Philippians chapter 3. That is at least going to be our jumping-off point today.

I had a joke ready a couple of weeks ago when I got up here, and then I forgot about it, but I got reminded about it again today, so I am going to use it today. I was standing back in the back two weeks ago when I was going to preach, and Kenzie walks over to me. She grabs my stack of notes here and is kind of flipping through them. I always number my pages because I learned that the hard way.

One time, a long time ago, Bob asked me to preach. We did a baptism, and we did it outside at somebody's house. He said, "Before we do it, you get up, take 15 or 20 minutes or whatever, and kind of lay out baptism and teach on it." I thought, "Alright, that will be good." I was nervous enough as it is, and there were only probably 30 or 40 people there at the time. So I was right in the middle of the day, and I had maybe four pages of notes, and I was stuck pretty solidly to my notes. A big old gust of wind comes, and the paper just goes, and I thought, "Oh my gosh!" I was picking them up, and I did not know where I was. I did not know what page was next. It was a nightmare. So now I number my pages anyway. If that ever happens, I can figure out what order they are supposed to go in.

So Kenzie is looking through, and she says, "Oh, 11 pages." She says, "Oh, good job, Dad." Then she is staring at the last page, and I am like, "What are you doing?" Because then she says, "Oh, 1 Corinthians 3:13." I said, "What are you doing?" She goes, "I just wanted to know when you got to that verse that meant you were almost done." I said, "Thank you for that, Mackenzie."

Then I am standing back there this morning, and she does it again. She is walking over, and she is staring at it. I am like, "What are you doing?" I said, "I am not letting you do it today." But I got her last week because I started going so long I did not even read that verse anyway. I had to close out because I was thinking I was not going to preach all that long. Then I look up at the clock, and I am like, "Oh my gosh, I have to hurry! I am not going to get done." So she does not know what verse I am ending on today, and neither do you.

I will say that I am going to try not to be too long today. It is Easter. I want you guys to be able to go home and enjoy some time with your family. But I think it is an important thing we are going to talk about today. I hope you get a blessing out of it.

They say in life that it is not what you know, but it is who you know. That is very true in many things that we do in life. That is true when it comes to the jobs that you work. The very first job that I ever got was at the university where I went to school, and one of the professors needed to hire a research tech. I knew him because I had been in his class, so he hired me. I got that job because I knew somebody. The next job that I got after that, I got because I knew somebody. Chris Schmidt, back there in the back row, helped me get that job. Pretty much every job that I

have ever had since then has been because I knew somebody that reached out and said, "Hey, would you be interested in this? I will put in a good word for you. I will tell the guy about you."

If you want to buy something, it helps to know somebody. It helps to get a deal sometimes. If I ever need a gun, I know a guy. I know a guy, right, Nathan? Not you, I mean, you know the guy too. You work for him for free, actually. So if you need something, it helps. If I ever need some flowers planted, I know a guy, Josh, that I can get help with. So it helps to know somebody. It is always about who you know.

In social circles, at school, or even at work, what is the conversation? It is always about who is the popular guy, who is the quarterback of the football team. Everybody wants to be able to say, "Yeah, I know that guy. I know that guy." You are telling stories about, "I will tell you a story. I know him. I know him really well. Me and him are buddies." I have a running joke with Jamie that she always feels like she knows everybody. Every random stranger that we see at the grocery store, she is like, "I think I went to high school with that person. I think I know them." I am like, "No, you do not. No, you do not." But life is about who you know. Life is about who you know many, many times.

I want to read you a couple of verses here in Philippians chapter 3, verses 9 and 10.

*Philippians 3:9-10*

*And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:*

*That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;*

I have a very simple question for you today, and we are going to spend the next little bit of time talking about it. My question for you is, when it comes to the most popular person in the entire universe, the most powerful person in the entire universe, the Lord Jesus Christ, do you know Him? I do not care today if you know some celebrity. I do not care if you know the quarterback of the football team. I do not care if you know the most popular girl in school and you are friends with her. I do not care about any of that. The only thing that matters in life, that really matters in life, is, do you know Him? Do you know the Lord Jesus Christ?

Let us have a word of prayer, and we will get started.

Heavenly Father, we love You, and we thank You for the Lord Jesus. We thank You for everybody that is here today. Lord, it is a day that is a holiday that we certainly do not put a tremendous amount of emphasis on because we believe that when it comes to the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ, it is something that we should celebrate every day of our lives, Lord. It should not be just one day out of the year that we set aside to recognize and to think about it, Lord. But here we are, and I just pray that as we get into Your Word today, that You will give me the right words to say. Your Holy Spirit will just give me His power, Lord. Let Him speak through me. Let me be able to say exactly what You put on my heart. Let it be a blessing to the people that are here today, Lord, as well as myself. We just want You to get honor

and glory out of all of it. Everything that we do and that we say today, and everything we do and say this afternoon, we just want You to get honor and glory. We love You, and we ask You to sing in Jesus' name. Amen.

## I. Do You Know Jesus?

So, do you know Jesus? Do you really know Jesus? Do you know what He is like? Have you ever looked in the Bible and really seen what He is like? I want to talk about Him a little bit. I am going to tell you some things that I have learned about Him. I am going to tell you some things that I see in this Bible that tell me about Him, tell me about what He was like, and what He is like today.

- He Is Meek
- He Was Meek But He Was Tough
- He Was Also Humble
- He Was Also Compassionate
- He Is Longsuffering
- He Was Perfect and Sinless
- He Was Also Loving

## II. Do You Know What Jesus Likes and Hates?

Now we are going to come back to this in just a little bit. I want to move on because I want to say that when you really know somebody, you know some things that they were, and we have talked about a few, and we could go on. There are certainly other character traits and character qualities that Jesus had, but for the sake of time, I want to move on.

When you really know somebody, you know the things that they like. You know the things that they do not like, the things that they hate. So, do we know what Jesus likes? Do we know what Jesus hates? Do you even know that Jesus hates things? The world will tell you today that God is love, Jesus is love. He loves everybody, and He loves everything. My Bible tells me there are some things that He certainly does not love, and there are some things that He out and out hates.

I have been married for 18 years now. Jamie is back with the kids, so I may not get myself in trouble here today because she is not here to listen to this. But I have been married for 18 years, and over that time, I have gotten to know her a little bit. I have gotten to know some things about her. I know what she likes, and I know what she hates. I know the things that she does not like. Some of you guys may know these things too.

She does not like sitting in booths at restaurants. Neither do I. She is a little bit of a germaphobe. She does not like germs in general, so anything in life that might put her in close proximity to

germs or a place that she feels there is going to be a lot of germs, she does not like going there. So booths in restaurants absolutely disgust her, and it has grown to the point where five or six or ten years ago, it would just be, "Oh, I hope we do not have to sit in a booth." Now, when we go to a restaurant, I have to go up to the host up front and say, "We need a table for five, please, and please, no booth. You have to put us at the table wherever you have it, put us out on a porch or wherever. It has to be a table with chairs, please."

Jamie does not like hotel rooms. We go to a hotel room, it is like a fire sale, everything must go. I know my job before we get in there. I have to go in. I have to strip all the sheets, all the covers off the bed. It is a progression. I used to be able to just take them all off and wad them up and stick them in the closet. No, no, no, they are still in the room that way. Now I have to take them, roll them up into a ball, and take them outside of the room and put them in the hallway and just hope that the staff will pick them up at some point. Not only that, but there is that little tray on there, nice little coffee pot for you. Do not ever use the coffee pot, by the way. I have heard awful things about that thing. I am not even a germaphobe, but do not use the coffee pot in those hotel rooms. Just do not. Go downstairs to the Starbucks and pay four bucks for it. But I have to take that thing out, the little tray out of the room. So if you ever stalk us on vacation, the day that we check into the hotel, you will see the funniest thing ever because you will see me walking out of the room just taking things out and just setting them outside in the hallway. It is the craziest thing ever.

Jamie does not like, you are really mad, I say this, this is inappropriate, you should not talk about these things ever, but especially not when you are preaching, but here I go. No noises, bodily functions of any kind at the dinner table. None. Do not belch or anything else, even within earshot of the table. Please, that is the worst thing.

Jamie hates eating a gluten-free diet. Unfortunately, she has had to start doing that last summer. She hates it. She cannot stand it. She wishes that she could eat all the bread in the world that she wants that has all the wheat flour, and she cannot. Jamie hates being tickled. If I really, really want to make her mad, all I have to do is stick my finger in her side, and oh my gosh, I will be sleeping on the couch. The last thing I will say is, she does not like it when I talk about her when I preach. She does not. So it is a good thing the Lord worked that out for her to be back there. No, Jamie does not like being talked about, and she just does not want people to make a big deal about her. She is uncomfortable with it.

So I know I have learned some things over the years that she does not like. I have learned some other things that I will not get into that I can say that will cause her to get angry with me. This is what happens when you know somebody. But I have also learned some things that she does like. I know that she likes QuickTrip iced teas. She is rather addicted to them. But they have to be made just the right way. It has to be in a Styrofoam cup, and it has to be crushed ice, not the cubed ice. You fill the ice all the the top, mound it over the top, get as much ice in there as you can, like you are making a snow cone. Then you put the tea in there, and when it melts some of the ice down, it makes a little bit of room. You can put a little bit more ice in there, and then you cram the lid on it as best as you can, and you take it to her, and it will be like you just gave her a million dollars.

Jamie likes dessert. That is why everybody needs to bring a dessert today. A few of them gluten-free would be good. Jamie loves Mexican food. Jamie loves pineapple on her pizza. Funhouse Pizza, by the way. Amen. Thank you. I know there are at least three of you in here that like Funhouse as much as I do. Jamie likes playing cards. Jamie loves people and serving people. She loves her children like no other mother could. Believe it or not, for some reason I still have not figured out yet, she even actually loves me. She loves her family and her friends. She loves the Bible most, but most of all, she loves the Lord.

The point that I am making here is that when you know somebody, you know the things that they like, and you know the things that they do not like. We say that we know the Lord, but I wonder, do we really know Him that well?

Turn over to Proverbs chapter 6, verses 16 through 19. He tells us some things here that He hates, and He says it pretty clearly. This is not up for private interpretation. It says:

*Proverbs 6:16-19*

*These six things doth the LORD hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him:*

*A proud look, a lying tongue,*

*And hands that shed innocent blood,*

*An heart that deviseth wicked imaginations,*

*Feet that be swift in running to mischief,*

*A false witness that speaketh lies,*

*And he that soweth discord among brethren.*

There are some things that Jesus hates in this world, and these are all things, unfortunately, that show up in His church on a regular basis. These are things that show up in our life on a regular basis: a proud look, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood. Certainly, we do not do that physically, but we do that spiritually at times. A heart that devises wicked imaginations. Feet that be swift in running to mischief. Boy, we get in a hurry when we are going to get in trouble. We do not do it slowly. A false witness that speaks lies, and he that sows discord among the brethren.

He says there that "these six things doth the Lord hate: yea, seven are an abomination unto him." There is nothing that irritates Him, there is nothing that He hates more than the seventh one: "he that soweth discord among the brethren." Because God knows that the most important thing that His church has, the most important thing that we have, is unity. If we are unified as a church body, there is nothing that God cannot accomplish through Old Paths Baptist Church. We have the ability to have unity because we have a Book that we stand on. We have a pastor that preaches and teaches that Book, that preaches the truth and upholds it. We have the Holy Spirit of God that lives and dwells in each and every one of us. But it is up to us to choose whether or not we are going to maintain that unity. We are either going to love each other the way we should, we are going to treat each other the way we should, or we are going to sow discord

among the brethren. When we sow discord, it creates problems. It creates disunity, and the church crumbles, and it does not accomplish what God wants to accomplish.

There are some things there that the Bible tells us that Jesus loves or that He hates. But there are some things that the Bible says that Jesus loves.

➤ What Jesus Loves

### III. Do You Know What He Did For You?

I want to talk about a third thing here, and I just want to talk about, do you know what He did for you? For some of you, this is very, very familiar. For some of you, maybe not. But God tells us in Romans chapter 3 and verse 23:

*Romans 3:23*

*For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

He tells us that every single person that lives on and has lived on this earth has sinned and come short of the glory of God. I told you before that I grew up thinking that I was going to be a good enough person, that I was nice enough, I was friendly enough to people. I did not get caught up in all the things, right? I did not drink, smoke, or chew, and I did not go with the girls that do or did. I did not do any of those things. I was trusting in my own self-righteousness. But the Bible tells me there in Romans chapter 3, God showed me. He says, "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God." You cannot measure up. You cannot measure up on your own. You cannot be good enough. You cannot do good enough.

And then He says in Romans 5:12:

*Romans 5:12*

*Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:*

So He told me that I could not line up. I did not measure up. I fell short of the glory of God. Then He told me something about that sin, something else about that sin in Romans 6:23. He says:

*Romans 6:23*

*For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

He says there is a wage that has been earned by your sin, by the sin that you have committed in your life. There is a wage that you are due, and that wage is death. But then He goes on to say, "but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord." He says that "I am giving you a gift. I am going to give you an opportunity."

So what did He do for you? What He did for you is He made a way. He made a way for you to get forgiven for your sins. He made a way for you to be made God's righteousness, even though there was no righteousness in you at all.

Turn over to Philippians chapter 2. We read one of these verses earlier. We are going to read this whole passage now, Philippians chapter 2, verses 5 through 11. I do not know that there is any place in the Bible that says it more clearly to tell me exactly what Jesus did for me.

*Philippians 2:5-11*

*Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:*

*Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:*

*But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:*

*And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.*

*Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:*

*That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;*

*And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

It says He, "being found in fashion as a man, humbled himself, and became obedient unto the death, even the death of the cross." So Jesus Christ humbled Himself to become a man, and then He actually became obedient unto death, death which was something that He had rule and reign over. But He became subservient to it. He became obedient to it. He went over and He hung on that cross, and He bled for you, and He bled for me, and He shed His blood for the whole world to make a way for us to avoid that death that Romans 6:23 says is the wages of our sin. That is something that we need to think about, not just on Easter, not one time a year. Every single day of our life, we should wake up and think about what Jesus Christ did for us, about the price that He paid for us.

*Hebrews 12:3*

*For consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself, lest ye be wearied and faint in your minds.*

He tells us, and Bob preached a message just a few weeks back on this verse, about considering Him. He says, "consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself," because it really was a contradiction: perfect God Almighty coming down and living as a man and then being put up on a cross to die for a bunch of sinners who do not deserve it. So let us consider Him. Let us consider exactly what He did.

- He humbled Himself as a servant so we could become a child of the King.
- He moved from the penthouse all the way down to the outhouse so we could move from the outhouse all the way up to the penthouse.
- He sat there in the garden under such strain and stress, and the Bible says He sweat drops of blood, so we could have the peace that passes understanding.

- He was beaten without mercy so He could show us mercy without end.
- These are some contradictions that exist. These are some contradictions of Jesus against these sinners. These are some things that we do not deserve, but He did it for us because He loved us.
- He wore a crown of thorns so we could someday wear a crown of righteousness.
- He paid an immeasurable price so we could receive salvation completely free.
- He was mocked by men so we would never have to be mocked by God. Proverbs 1:26 at the Great White Throne Judgment.
- He hung naked on the cross so that we could be clothed with His righteousness.
- He put on grave clothes so that we could be clothed with the garments of salvation. Isaiah 61:10.
- He thirsted on that cross so we would never thirst again.
- He who knew no sin became sin so we who knew nothing but sin would sin no more.
- He received God's wrath so that we could receive God's grace.
- He was rejected by God so we could be accepted in the Beloved.
- He lowered Himself to the very depths of hell so that we could be raised up to sit in heavenly places in Christ Jesus.

What an amazing thing that He did for us. What an amazing thing.

## IV. Does He Know You?

I have one last thing I want to talk to you about just for a few more minutes, and then we are going to close. But I have one last question for you. We have been talking about, "Do you know Jesus?" And, "Do you really know Jesus?" "Do you really know who He is?" "Do you really know who He was?" "Do you know the things that He likes?" "Do you know the things that He does not like?" "Do you know what He did for you?" But I have one last question, and it is so very important, and that question is, does He know you?

Turn over to Matthew chapter 7, verses 21 through 23.

*Matthew 7:21-23*

*Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.*

*Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works?*

*And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.*

That has got to be the single most horrible thing that anybody could ever hear come out of the mouth of the Lord Jesus Christ: to hear Him say that He never knew you. To hear Him say, "I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity." You see, you can learn all sorts of things about Him. You can sit here today and take everything that I told you today. You can get into the Bible yourself and find out even more things about Him. But until you get a personal introduction to the Lord Jesus Christ, then He never knew you.

Those men right there were telling Him all the great things that they had done in His name, even, but it did not matter in the end because He never knew them. If you are sitting here today and you say you know the Lord, but you do not know for sure if He knows you, then you need to let somebody sit down with the Bible and open it up and show you. You need to let somebody show you in the Bible how you can be saved and how you can get that personal introduction to Jesus. Because here is the thing: just listening to the things that I preached this morning tells you some things about Him, but that is not the same as getting introduced to your Lord and Savior. That is not the same as having a personal relationship with Him and knowing for sure that your sins have been forgiven and that they have been wiped out.

*Revelation 3:20*

*Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.*

For some of you that are sitting here today, and I do not know the spiritual state of every person that is in here, but I have to assume that in a crowd this size, there is at least one person in here that does not know for sure that they are going to go to heaven when they die, that has never met the Lord, that has never had this introduction that I am talking about. The Lord Jesus Christ is sitting here, and He has been for the last hour or so that we have been talking, and He is knocking on the door of your heart. The question is, are you going to open it up? Are you going to open that door and meet Him so you do not have to stand in that day of judgment in the end and look at Him and say, "But Lord, I knew all these things about You. I did all of these things. I went to church. I even gave. I did all of those things." And for Him to look at you and say, "I am sorry, I never knew you. I never knew you."

Let us have every head bowed and every eye closed. We are going to close here in a minute, but I just want to ask you today. I told you what Jesus Christ did for you. I told you how, because of your sin, there is an eternal penalty that has to be paid, and that eternal penalty is spending all of eternity burning and suffering in the lake of fire for your sins. But Jesus Christ loved you enough, and He loved me enough, to come down to this planet and to walk as a human man, to live a perfect life, and then to willingly go and hang on the cross and shed His blood to give a way for you and to give a way for me to get forgiveness for those sins, to get our sin debt completely blotted and wiped clean. But the question is, are you willing to take that step? Are you willing to say, "Yes, I do not know for sure if I were to die today that I would go to heaven to be with the Lord"? Because that is really the question.

I am not going to ask you if you are saved today because everybody says they are saved. Everybody thinks because if you go to church sometime that you are saved. The question is, inside of your heart right now, do you know 100% for sure that if you were to die, God forbid if you were to get in a car accident on the way home from church today, do you know absolutely for sure, for certain, that you will go to heaven to be with the Lord? If you do not know for sure, then it is absolutely foolish for you to walk out these doors without settling that.

I just want to ask you, I just want to pray for you. I am not going to embarrass anybody, but if there is anybody here today that would just say, "I do not know for sure that I am going to go to

heaven. I do not know for sure if the Lord knows me. I do not know if Jesus knows me," would you just raise your hand? Just put it up very quickly. I just want to pray for you. Thank you. I see it. Thank you. I just want to pray for you. Anybody else? Thank you. Never refuse prayer. I am just going to take one more second.

Alright, let us pray. Dear Heavenly Father, a couple of people raised their hand, Lord, and I just pray for them right now. I pray that in a moment here, that they will have the courage, Lord, to stand up and to go back in the back and let somebody open up the Bible and show them how they can know for sure that when they walk out of here today, that if anything would ever happen to them, that they have had that introduction to You, Lord, and that You know them, and that Your Holy Spirit will come inside and take up residence inside of them and forgive them of their sins so that they can know for sure that they are going to go to heaven someday. Lord, I just pray that You will continue to work on their hearts, Lord, and anybody in here that maybe they did not raise their hand, but You are working on them right now, Lord, let Your Holy Spirit just convict them and give them the courage, Lord. Do not let them walk out of here without taking care of that thing, without settling that. Lord, we love You, and with every head bowed and every eye closed, I am just going to say one more thing.

If you raised your hand, or even if you did not raise your hand, do you want to fix it? Do you want to know how? You raised your hand and you said, "I do not know for sure. I do not know for sure that I am going to go to heaven when I die." It is the most important decision that you will ever make. All you have to do is just stand up, and I will have somebody from the back come and take you into a private room and open up the Bible and show you. Anyone? Maybe somebody that did not raise their hand, but the Holy Spirit is sitting there. He is tapping you on His shoulder, and He is saying, He is talking to you right now, "Hey, that is how it was for me." I remember the night that I stepped forward and trusted Christ as my Savior. The Holy Spirit was sitting there, and He was tapping me on the shoulder, and He was saying, "That is you. You do not know for sure. You better find out. You better make sure." Anyone at all? All you have to do is stand up. John.

Alright, very good. Well, listen, let me just say one last thing. I know there was at least one other person that raised their hand, and that is okay, and some of you maybe needed to, but you did not. Well, let me just say this: somebody invited you to church today. Somebody loved you and cared about you enough to want you to come and hear this, and God wanted you to be here to hear what you heard today. So I implore you, I urge you, I beg you to ask somebody. Come up to me afterwards. I will sit down with you and ask somebody what it takes to be saved because it is not worth it. The few years that we get on this earth where we do the things that we want to do are not worth trading all of eternity for. Do not fool yourselves the way those men did into thinking that you are going to get up to heaven and impress God with the things that you have done for Him because if you have not had that personal introduction, then He is going to look at you and say, "I never knew you. I never knew you."

Well, let us pray, and we will be dismissed. Heavenly Father, we love You, and we just thank You for everything that You do for us, Lord. Thank You for sending Your Son to this earth, Lord. Thank You for sending Him to not only live and be an example for us of how we are to live our

lives, but thank You for sending Him to die for us, Lord. Thank You for loving us enough that while we were yet sinners, You died for us, and You shed Your innocent blood to save us from our sins. I pray for anybody in this room that is going to walk out of here and they do not know for sure, Lord, I pray that You will continue to give them an opportunity to go to somebody and to ask them to open up the Bible and show them how they can be saved and how they can know for sure that they are going to be in eternity with You in heaven. Lord, we pray that throughout this afternoon, with whatever things may be going on, whether people are going to have dinner with their families or heading out to Restart out on the streets, I pray You will just watch over us all and protect us and keep us safe. Let us do everything that we do for Your honor and glory, and we love You. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Alright, guys, take just a few minutes, and then we will have everybody up. We will have a quick meeting about Restart.