

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

JOY FOR EVERY SITUATION

PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 3:7-9

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“FINDERS KEEPERS, LOSERS WINNERS”

DISCOVERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND HIS JOY IN EVERY SITUATION

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Salvation, Power, Comfort, Growth, Living

Introduction to the Text:

Philippians 3:7-9

“Finders Keepers, Losers **Weepers**”

Among children – it’s a pretty common thing to drop as long as you’re the finder.

But if an adult were to use this in his defense as to “why he now has your wallet” – that would be something altogether different.

When something is discovered in the lost and found drawer, there is an unwritten code that it is to be returned to the owner.

Finders Keepers, Losers Winners

Matthew 16:25-26

For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. **26** For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

This “Inversion or Antithesis” of thinking is totally foreign to human logic and reason and therein is our problem.

Philippians 3:7-9

But **(what things)** were **gain** to me, **these** I have **counted loss** for Christ.

8 Yet indeed I also **count (all things) loss** for the **excellence of the knowledge of** Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have **suffered** the **loss** of **(all things)**, and **count them** as **rubbish**, that I may **(gain)** Christ **9** and be **(found) in Him**, not having **my own righteousness**, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, **(the righteousness)** which is from God **by faith**;

Finders Keepers, Losers Winners

1.) **It's only true if...**

vs. 7-8a

1a.) **You have discovered the true value of those things**

vs. 7

7 But **what things** were **gain** to me, **these** I have **counted loss** for Christ.



what things grk: hostis, hos'-tis,

the things that were. that which was or whatsoever as it relates to things or days gone by. All things previous.



gain kerdos, ker'-dos;

that which is gain to someone. albeit status, power, money, influence, control, recognition. Lucre – meaning anything that profits you.

“What Things Gained...”

Little do we know just how toxic these things can be.

They are Those Things that we pursue in life.

(our desires + become our pursuits + creating our person)

Something's **noble**, something's **secret**, something's **exceptional** something's **questionable**.

...what things were **gain** to me **are those things that we have achieved, acquired or earned or inherited.**
(Humanly speaking – we are proud of them.)

They become toxic because:

These things are impossible to part with because we find our identity in them.

(1) We find our worth in them. (2) We find our status in them.
We see those “things” as granting us access, privilege & title.

Galatians 6:12-15

As many as desire to make a good showing in the flesh, these would compel you to be circumcised, only that they may not suffer persecution for the cross of Christ. 13 For not even those who are circumcised keep the law, but they desire to have you circumcised that they may boast in your flesh. 14 But God forbid that I should boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. 15 For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision avails anything, but a new creation.

...these I have **counted loss** for Christ.

👉 counted grk: hegeomai, hayg-eh'-om-ahee
to act by official decree. by royal authority to deem, to judge, determine.

👉 loss zemia, dzay-mee'-ah;
that which is, has become dangerous, violent, fatal. through the idea of violence); a detriment. The implication is that the thing that is being held on to is the very thing that is killing you.

All things of my past life, my life **prior** to encountering **JESUS** Christ.

Finders Keepers, Losers Winners

It's only true **if...**

1b.) You keep those things **in their proper place**

vs. 7

8a Yet **indeed** I also **count all things loss**

This word here **“indeed”** is a word that we need to know.

This little word "indeed" with which he begins (or in the JKV "doubtless) is really a translation of five particles in the Greek language, all of which indicate a strong emphasis. What Paul is literally saying is: **though, indeed, therefore, at**

least, even so, all of which means = **without a doubt**. He doesn't want to leave any doubt in their minds about his meaning.

All the things of my past, the things today, currently, **presently**, and continuing to do the **math**, I still come up with the same answer – everything is lost **compared** to knowing **Jesus Christ**.

This is divine “**disillusionment**” – a crisis we must all face, (a necessary **disappointment**, needed **discouragement**, required **disenchantment**).

1 Timothy 1:14-15

And the grace of our Lord was exceedingly abundant, with faith and love which are in Christ Jesus. **15** This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.

The Danger is real - if we do not have this “**divine disillusionment of crisis**” we will continue to just cozy-on-up to the pew, sit down and drift away into eternity having missed ever knowing Jesus Christ at all.

Galatians 3:1-3

O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you that you should not obey the truth, before whose eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed among you as crucified? **2** This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? **3** Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?

Finders Keepers, Losers Winners

It's only true **if...**

1c.) You see the **superiority of who Christ is vs. those things**

vs. 7

8b for the **excellence of the knowledge of** Christ Jesus **my Lord**,



excellence grk: huperecho, hoop-er-ekh'-o.

to reach to the heights of , to go higher up, to go beyond, superiority. to pass-by all other beliefs, the supremacy of knowing Jesus Christ in the here and now.

2 Peter 1:16-18

For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty. **17** For He received from God the Father honor and glory when such a voice came to Him from the Excellent Glory: "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." **18** And we heard this voice which came from heaven when we were with Him on the holy mountain.

👍 knowledge grk: gnosis, gno'-sis.
the knowing, the act of knowing and the act continuing to know more and more. to experience a never ending "getting to know" knowledge. (also translated "science")

1 John 1:1-3

That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we have looked upon, and our hands have handled, concerning the Word of life :**2** the life was manifested, and we have seen, and bear witness, and declare to you that eternal life which was with the Father and was manifested to us :**3** that which we have seen and heard we declare to you, that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with His Son Jesus Christ.

What a difference there is today "Doing Church" than
from the 1st century church.

In the 1st century church it was all about (1) the cross, (2) about the fear of sin, (3) the glory of His resurrection, (4) salvation by His grace, (5) the inerrant scriptures, (6) the coming judgment of God and (7) the joys and (8) terrors of a coming heaven and hell. - - (9) the appearing of Christ!

Today, the powerless, pathetic church looks so much like the world around it that there is no real reason for the lost to even attend church when they can go to the Kodak Theater and get a much better show – sometimes dinner and a show.

Finders Keepers, Losers Winners

2.) It's only true **by...**

vs. 8b

2a.) **Experiential knowledge** of Jesus Christ

vs. 8

Philippians 3:8c-9

8c for **whom** I have **suffered** the **loss** of (all **things**),

Experiential knowledge of Jesus Christ,

Is a transformational experience that can be measured, observed and witnessed by others because it leads to a godly, holy, and powerful life; a fruitful life.

2 Corinthians 12:9

And He said to me, "**My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness.**" (you will never know His grace and strength without suffering) Therefore most gladly I will rather **boast in my infirmities**, that the **power of Christ may rest upon me. 10** Therefore I **take pleasure in infirmities**, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. **For when I am weak, then I am strong.**

There is a kind of suffering that is "**Self-Inflicted Wounds**"

<http://static1.squarespace.com/static/55c35820e4b01ce745198fe1/t/574b6e50d51cd43e7b7f00c3/1464561351038/>

I am not speaking of that sort of suffering,
but the sort that comes from the attacks of this world against God's people.

We are to be suffering BECAUSE of our identity to Jesus Christ.

For **whom** or **what** are you **suffering** the **loss** of (all **things**) today ?

In this world, loss is guaranteed in due time. Even if you were to die today a very rich man, you cannot take one penny with you into eternity.

Self-Inflicted Wounds = Winners to often become Losers

Luke 12:13-21

Then one from the crowd said to Him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the inheritance with me.” 14 But Jesus said to him, “Man, who made Me a judge or an arbitrator over you?” 15 And He said to them, “Take heed and beware of covetousness, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of the things he possesses.” 16 Then He spoke a parable to them, saying: “The ground of a certain rich man yielded plentifully. 17 And he thought within himself, saying, “What shall I do, since I have no room to store my crops?” 18 So he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build greater, and there I will store all my crops and my goods. 19 And I will say to my soul, “Soul, you have many goods laid up for many years; take your ease; eat, drink, and be merry.” ’ 20 But God said to him, “Fool! This night your soul will be required of you; then whose will those things be which you have provided?” 21 “So is he who lays up treasure for himself, and is not rich toward God.”

Finders Keepers, Losers Winners
It's only true by...

2b.) Accounting Biblical truth to myself

vs. 8

and **count(ing) them** as **rubbish**, = (-) that I may (**gain**) Christ = (+)



rubbish grk: sku/balon skubalon, skoo'-bal-on.

(Considered to be too gross or vulgar to mention) dung, waste, that which is not even fit for the wild dogs.



gain grk: kerdai-nw kerdaino, ker-dah'-ee-no;

to get the win or to have it handed to you. to have the benefits of winning or having been declared the winner. ie. *“he was handed the victory”*

Do The Math

COME TO CHRIST TODAY

End of Study

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