

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

JOY FOR EVERY SITUATION

PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 3:10-11

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM-902 JULY 31, 2016

THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“ IN HOT PURSUIT ”

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 3:10-11

I read this week, how on October 4th 1957 the United States was shocked to learn that the Soviet Union had launched the first satellite into space.

Then President Eisenhower called an emergency cabinet meeting and the results were this, that America would invest everything needed into Scientific discovery, Increased education and a doubling down of our efforts to enhance US technologies.

The United States launched a pursuit of knowledge that led to the US becoming the soul Global power of it's day. But that explosion of prosperity, Technology and power did nothing to affect the culture and morality. It certainly did not lead us closer to God !

Pursuits Matter

Philippians 3:10-11

that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, :11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Christianity can be defined as a Relationship;

In which there is a literal, personal manifestation of the Living God upon the human soul which is Observed, Experiential and Knowledgeable.
(in a word - meeting Jesus)

In Paul's diary / prayer - - we find a rather uneasy Confession/request from the great apostle that seems out of place. He does not say that I want to know about Christ, but that I want to know him. How could you say such a thing when he is experienced so much some 30 years earlier on his way to Damascus...

That Paul/Saul then; was a theologian in the extreme.

With the best seminary degrees, the very best of professors and mentors, and a life of personal conduct that was beyond criticism.
Religiously speaking, Paul was the man to beat !

But now He is a different man; He has met the God that he has learned about, but now he has experienced the very personality of who God is in Jesus Christ.

In Hot Pursuit

- J.A. Motyer writes;

“Nothing can be truly known unless the reality of it is being lived out in daily life”

- And so I would say today;

“Jesus Christ cannot be truly known unless the reality of Him is being lived out in daily life”

In Hot Pursuit

what are you in hot pursuit of in life ?

1.) **Getting as close as you can** vs. 10a

:10a that **I** may **know** Him

1a.) It means that it is **personal** vs. 10a

that **I** may...

**(this is beyond the doctrine of salvation.
This truth is the very goal of what is called discipleship)**

**Notice with me that;
the soul of the Apostle is in hot pursuit of God.**

**And we know from what he is about to say – that there is no greater
meaning or purpose to his life. **God was Paul's very existence !****

Psalm 42:1-2

As the deer **pants** for the water brooks, **So pants my soul** for You, O God. 2 My
soul thirsts for God, for the living God.

When shall I (me, with my soul and spirit) come and appear before God?

“that I”

“There is nothing shallow or superficial about the man who has set such knowledge as his goal in life. Knowledge about Christ received from reading a book or listening to a sermon could not satisfy the man in search of such a holy quest. Conformity to Christ is his goal and he refuses to stop short of it.”

- Leman Strauss

**It means that it's a very personal pursuit.
(is it yours today ?)**

There is a whining, sniveling generation of so called “Christians”
that say things like:

“I don't go to church anymore because...”

“The Church lost me - so I'm gonna gossip about it”

“Or some guy wrote a book and he said the Bible is wrong” or “the church just
doesn't relate to me and my needs.”

In Hot Pursuit Getting As Close As You Can

1b.) It means that it is **intimate**

vs. 10a

that **I** may **know** Him



know ginosko, ghin-océ'-ko;

to "know" in absolute terms. to know by way of expression, intimacy,
to know by the highest form possible. to know with certain familiarity

Genesis 4:1

Now Adam **knew** Eve his wife, and she conceived



knew yada, yaw-dah'

to know face to face. to behold fully. to see all with full vision. With observation, care, to recognize, to understanding another. (implying the discipline of a blind person - - that we so study, examine, "trace" with our hands / being - the person(ality) of the other.

Psalms 46:10

Be still, and **know** that I am God;

"To have found God and still to pursue Him is the soul's paradox of love."
A.W. Tozer

John 17:3

This is eternal life, that they may **know** You, (this is not evangelism – this is beyond that) **the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent.**

I find it amazing, even awesome that the man Paul, who had met the risen Lord Jesus Christ, who had seen Him in His glory, who had actually heard His voice - - admits that there is more to Jesus, infinitely more, always more.

Philippians 3:7-8

But what things were gain to me, these I have **counted** loss for Christ. **8** Yet indeed I also **count** all things loss (after all these years and up to this moment, I do not lean on what was or what is, but what is coming to me in this pursuit) **for the excellence of the knowledge** (not more information, but relation) of Christ Jesus my Lord,

In Hot Pursuit Getting As Close As You Can

1c.) It means that it is **eternal**

vs. 10a

that I may **know Him**

👍 **Him** grk: autos, ow-tos';
the breath or inhalation or wind. The life and the life-giver. through the idea of an unexplainable wind. respire = to inhale – exhale.

That first “Born Again” experience

John 20:21-22

So Jesus said to them again, “**Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.**” 22 And when He had said this, He **breathed** on them, and said to them, “**Receive the Holy Spirit.**”

👍 **Lambano** grk:, *lam-ban'-o*;
(in amazement) - to get hold of. to seize, to possess. to catch. To grab hold of, to own.

1 Corinthians 2:9 KJV

But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. 10 But God hath revealed them unto us by his Spirit: for the Spirit searcheth all things, yea, the deep things of God.

I am going to ask that you stand

(#1) only the Christian's here this morning stand to your feet. (#2) That you raise your hands to heaven, (#3) that you pray this with me...

Lord, I pray – “that I may **know** You and the **power** of Your **resurrection**, and the **fellowship** of Your **sufferings**, **being conformed** to Your **death**, :11 if, by **any means**, I may **attain** to the **resurrection** from the dead. – In Jesus Name, Amen

COME TO CHRIST TODAY

End of Study

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