

CHAPTER 30.4 *Jesus is All*

"TO KNOW HIM"
Philippians 3:1 - 4:1
September 3, 2017

To know Jesus surpasses all.

I. Supreme Value (1-11)

A. Dangerous Values – focus on who I am and what I do (1-6)

1. Ritual vs. worship (1-3)

2. Self-confidence (4-6)

B. One Surpassing value, Jesus, that obliterates all others. (7-11)

What does it mean to know Christ in this intensely intimate way?

1. Be found in Him (9)

2. Know His resurrection power (10)

3. Share / partnership of His sufferings (10)

4. Formed more and more into His likeness (10)

5. Ultimate anticipation of resurrection into His presence. (11)

II. Singular Goal: one thing I do (12-16)

A. I'm not there yet: knowing Him fully, and becoming truly like Him

B. Forgetting the past

Straining/pressing forward towards the prize: to Know Jesus

III. Salvation's End (17-21)

A. Our primary citizenship has shifted to heaven.

B. His power to complete our salvation as we are conformed to be like Him today and then finally in the future, as we are transformed.

IV. Stand Firm (4:1)

How does this apply to me?

NEXT WEEK

"CONTENTED RELIANCE"
Philippians 4:2-23

Passage Overview:

As Paul concludes his letter to the Philippian believers, he addresses what it means to live contented lives in Jesus. Contentedness is grounded in reliance, but independence and self-focused living prevent contentedness from taking root.

The Spirit exhorts the Philippians, and us, to Christ-reliance at every level of our existence: heart, mind, and actions. Joy presides when we rely on the Lord instead of anxiously trying to work things out on our own. Our minds too must be fixed on thoughts that correspond to His mind. As we lift our minds out of the base realms in which human thinking so often dwells, we learn the grace of His excellencies, resulting in the experience of His peace. Finally, Paul urges the Philippians to imitate him as He imitates Christ.

Paul then returns to sharing his thankfulness for the partnership of the Philippian church with him, just as he had at the beginning of his letter. As he thanks them for the gift that they sent him through Epaphroditus, he takes the opportunity to share with them the peace he has found through being content in any circumstance. He has learned to rejoice and enjoy abundance, but also how to be joy filled and content in times of great need. His contentment is not located in circumstances or possession, but in his deep reliance upon and joy in Jesus.

As you read this week, ask yourself how you would rate your level of contentment. What determines how contented you are? Is knowing Jesus and walking intimately with Him enough to fill you with joy and peace?

Reading for Next Week: Philippians 4:2-23