

Thinking Correctly about False Doctrine

Philippians 3:1-3

Never think that you are above God's Word.

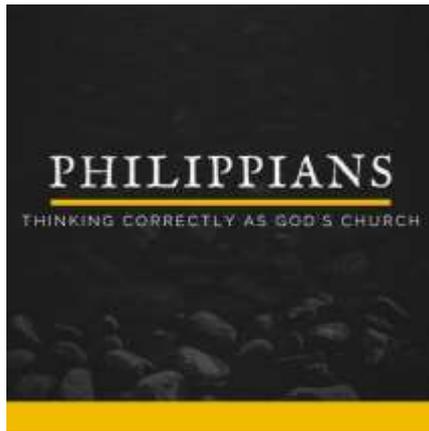
Outline of Chapter 3

3:1-3	Paul's warning and exhortation concerning the false doctrine of the Judaizers
3:4-16	Paul's mindset and testimony concerning earthly achievements & Christian living
3:17-4:1	Paul's warning and exhortation concerning the false doctrine of Antinomianism

I. Paul exhorts us to keep pursuing **joy. (3:1)**

- A command/appeal to focus on Jesus Christ **above all!**
- False doctrine will never **truly** exalt Jesus Christ.

II. Paul gives us 3 *ironic* & undesirable descriptions of the false teachers known as **Judaizers. (3:2)**



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Paul basically turns the tables on the Judaizers:

- **“Dogs”** – an OT Jewish term for ritually unclean Gentiles (Mark 7:27)
- **“Evildoers”** – another regular Jewish term for Gentiles who did not follow all the “works of the Law (OT Mosaic).”
- **“Those who mutilate the flesh”** – Now has no greater importance than pagan rituals (according to Paul).

III. Paul lists 3 compelling distinctives of **Christians (God’s true people)**. (3:3)

- **“who worship by the Spirit of God”** – true worshippers
- **“glory in Christ Jesus”** – glory in Christ rather than the Law
- **“put no confidence in the flesh”** – anything that is self-centered and robs God of His glory.

Application

1. We must beware of **adding to** God’s Word in the way that we live.
2. We must beware of **subtracting from** God’s Word in the way that we live.
3. We must beware of believing the lie that says **we are above** God’s Word. (Genesis 3:1-6)

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