

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for August 24-25, 2002

Dale Whitehead

"Paul's Spiritual Accounting Practices"

Philippians 3:4-11

What are the positive ramifications of gaining Christ?

The first positive ramification of gaining Christ is knowledge.

The word for "knowing" (GNOSIS), when it is used with a personal object as it is used here, refers to knowing in terms of a relationship or experience.

The second positive ramification of gaining Christ is righteousness.

Knowing the Lord and possessing the righteousness of God are inseparable.

Paul took possession of God's righteousness and came to know Him by exercising faith in Christ.

The third positive ramification of gaining Christ is power.

Paul mentions three specific things that he wants to experience personally so that he might be able to know Christ fully.

The first thing Paul wants to experience personally so that he might be able to know Christ fully is the power of His resurrection.

When in the past God sought to impress His people concerning His power, he reminded them of their deliverance from Egypt (Exodus 20:2).

In the coming age, the standard of divine power will be the regathering of Israel to the promised land in the time of the millennial kingdom (Jeremiah 23:7-8; Matthew 24:29-31).

In the present age, the standard of divine power is Christ's resurrection (Ephesians 1:19-21).

In Christ all the power that was manifested in His resurrection is available to us as we seek to live a holy life (Romans 6:1-4).

We are not to battle sin in our strength but in the strength of the living resurrected Christ.

Living our lives in the power of the living resurrected Christ will help us to know Him more fully.

To live in the power of Christ's resurrection requires that we continue to count all things as loss (Philippians 3:7-10).