

Gain by Losing



Philippians 3:1-11

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PHILIPPIANS
Joy In All Circumstances

Gaining by Losing?

WORLD | OBITUARIES

Biotech Star Checked Out Early From Career at Amgen

Kathy Wiltsey, who has died at 65, enjoyed a busy retirement only because she retired very early



Gain by Losing

1. Lose all worldly confidences (v. 1-7)
2. Gain knowing Christ (v. 7-11)

Finally, my brothers *and sisters*, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things *again* is no trouble for me, and it is a safeguard for you. (v. 1)

Judaizers

² Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;

“confidence in the flesh”

³ for we are the *true* circumcision,
who worship in the Spirit of God and
take pride in Christ Jesus, and put no
confidence in the flesh,

confidence = boast

²³ This is what the LORD says: “Let no wise man boast of his wisdom, nor let the mighty man boast of his might, nor a rich man boast of his riches; ²⁴ but let the one who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me, that I am the LORD who exercises mercy, justice, and righteousness on the earth; for I delight in these things,” declares the LORD. (Jer 9:23-24)

Paul's old worldly confidence

⁴ although I myself *could boast as* having confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he is confident in the flesh, I *have more reason*: ⁵ circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.

Paul's old worldly confidence

⁷ But whatever things were gain to me, these things I have counted as loss because of Christ.

Our Confidences?



Gain by Losing

1. Lose all worldly confidences (v. 1-7)
2. Gain knowing Christ (v. 7-11)

Not achieve, but know Christ

⁷ But whatever things were gain to me, these things I have counted as loss because of Christ.

⁸ More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them *mere* rubbish, so that I may gain Christ,

²⁴ but let the one who boasts boast of this,
that he understands and knows Me, that I
am the LORD who exercises mercy, justice,
and righteousness on the earth; (Jer 9:24)

Righteousness

⁹ and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith,

All consuming desire

¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; ¹¹ if somehow I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Gaining by Losing

1. Lose all worldly confidence
2. Know Christ in your suffering