

"I Choose Joy!"

A Series on the Book of Philippians

Today: Losing My Religion; Pursuing a Relationship! 3: 1-11

Months ago when I was planning out this sermon series, I looked forward to this particular section of Philippians with great anticipation. I was also pleased to see where it landed on the calendar, so close to our Independence Day. I love our country and the freedoms we enjoy, but I have to admit recent frustration and discouragement, when freedom turns to rejection of God. I have learned that my ultimate allegiance can only be placed in One who is faithful and true.

What does it mean when a preacher says "finally"?

Paul gets riled up: Christianity will always have its "adders and subtractors"

- the pendulum swings wildly between the "ultra-legalists" and the "re-definers"

What would you brag about if God saved you based on your accomplishments?

- Birthright....nationality....education....accomplishments....religious works...

Paul's "profit and loss statement" is flushed down the toilet...

Our "self-righteousness" is not just inadequate; it is downright repulsive to God...why?

- The "skybalon" of Philippians 3:8 and "filthy rags" of Isaiah 64: 6 tell the same stunning story...

How much do we really want to "know Christ"...or do we just want enough to get by?

- "I'd like \$5 worth of Jesus, please..."