**The Serious Danger of Self-Confidence: Part 2**

Philippians 3:2b

**Big Idea:** The danger of self-confidence is that we find our standing before God and our power to overcome the flesh in the things we do instead of who we are in Christ.

**Question 2:** What is our greatest enemy to our joy in the Lord?

**Answer:** Self-confidence.

**Self-Confidence**: Finding our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ before a holy God or our \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the sin-filled nature in anything other than Christ.

1. **The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Self-Confidence**

**Philippians 3:2 (ESV) — 2** Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh.

1. **Dogs**
2. **Evil-doers**

**Our acceptance before a holy God and our ability to overcome the flesh is not based on our performance but on Christ’s performance and our joy and trust in Him.**

**Rom. 6:1-4, 10-14**

**The difference between a true gospel and a false one, comes down to our *\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_* for good works.**

**Are we motivated to do good works in order to *secure* acceptance and victory, or are we motivated to good works in order to *experience* acceptance and victory?**

**Matthew 5:16 (ESV) — 16** In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

**When we see our new life in Christ as the source of our good works then opportunities to exercise those good works are opportunities to experience Christ.**

1. **Mutilators**

**Philippians 3:2 (ESV) — 2** Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh.

**Acts 10:9-16**

**Too often we think that God accepts us on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of how we look and the behavior we are used to and not on the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of Christ.**

**Galatians 3:28–29 (ESV) — 28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. **29** And if you are Christ’s, then you are Abraham’s offspring, heirs according to promise.

**Questions to Consider**

* What’s the difference between working toward righteousness and working from righteousness? Explain.
* What are some good works you tend to pile up to present to God as a reason he should be pleased with you?
* How does our culture encourage division?
* What secondary identities does the world tend to put their confidence in? How does this influence our own behavior? What are some ways we can fight against these temptations?
* How does 1Cor. 1:10-17 strike to the heart of these divisions?

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