PHILIPPIANS

Safety First

Further, my brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord! It is no trouble for me to write the same things to you again, and it is a safeguard for you. 2Watch out for those dogs, those evildoers, those mutilators of the flesh. 3For it is we who are the circumcision, we who serve God by his Spirit, who boast in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh— 4though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: 5circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; 6as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless. 7But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. 8What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ 9and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in[[a](http://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=philippians+3&version=NIV#fen-NIV-29431a)] Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. 10I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, 11and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead. [Philippians 3:1-11]

1. The Context:
   1. Paul has more…
      1. More concern:
      2. More reasons:
      3. More garbage:
      4. More Jesus:
   2. Paul uses strong language…
      1. Dogs:
      2. Evil workers:
      3. Mutilators:
      4. Rubbish:
2. Hostile Forces to safety and peace
   1. The Circumcision
   2. Self – Sufficiency
   3. Self – gratification
   4. Comparisons
   5. Complacency
3. A Safeguard for you
   1. Hebrews 11:1
   2. Count it a loss
   3. Righteousness on the basis of faith
   4. A growing relationship