

The Warnings of Jesus April 13, 2014

Who Let the Dogs Out?

Philippians 3:2-12 (NIV)

- ² Watch out for those dogs, those men who do evil, those mutilators of the flesh.
- ³ For it is we who are the circumcision, we who worship by the Spirit of God, who glory in Christ Jesus, and who put no confidence in the flesh—

though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If anyone else thinks he has reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more:
 circumcised 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;
 as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for legalistic righteousness, faultless.

- ⁷ But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ.
- ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ
- ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ--the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith.

- I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death,
 and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead.
- ¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

It is not religious zeal that will secure favor with God.

It is <u>pursuing</u> the God who has shown us <u>unconditional favor</u>. It is <u>relationship</u>.

Knowing Jesus – there is no greater thing.