

Trading Religion for a Relationship

Philippians 3:1-10

Introduction:

- Religion basically says, "You have to be _____ enough to attain heaven."
- Religion and God's Word _____ contradict.
 - ◆ *"Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith without the deeds of the law."* **Romans 3:28**
 - ◆ *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: Not of works, lest any man should boast."* **Ephesians 2:8-9**
- The apostle Paul traded religion for a relationship with Jesus Christ.
- Here in this passage of Scripture, Paul will reveal himself to us in three different ways. Most likely you will be able to relate your life to one of these three areas.

First, we see Paul - the religious man. vs. 4-6

- Paul was born into a religious home with a great religious heritage. vs. 5
- Paul was a _____ in his religion. vs. 5

- Paul kept the religious law diligently. vs. 6
- Paul was zealous to _____ his religion. vs. 6

Second, we see Paul - the empty man.

- When Paul opened his books to evaluate his spiritual wealth, he discovered that apart from Jesus Christ, everything that he had lived for was _____.

Third, we see Paul - the fulfilled man. vs. 8-10

- Paul finally understood what many religious people have a hard time understanding. I don't have to _____ anything to be accepted with God. Christ has already _____ it all.

- Jesus Christ died for your sin and rose from the dead that He might live _____ you and have a relationship with you. It has nothing to do with religion, but a relationship with this living Savior.