

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.

- a. Dogs
- b. 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.

c. 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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