

The Right Righteousness (The Great Exchange) Phil 3:7-11

⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law, but that which *is* through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; ¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, ¹¹ if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

Introduction:

Matt. 19:16-26

I. Paul's Loss

v. 7

⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss

⁸ Yet indeed I also count all things loss

v. 9 for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish,

⁷ But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss

But

ἀλλά

alla: otherwise, on the other hand, but

Original Word: ἀλλά

Part of Speech: Conjunction

Transliteration: alla

Phonetic Spelling: (al-lah')

Short Definition: but, except

Definition: but, except, however.

HELPS Word-studies

235 *allá* (typically a strong adversative conjunction) – *but (but instead), nevertheless, on the contrary.* **235** (*allá*), the neuter plural of **243** /*állos* ("other"), literally means "otherwise" or "on the other hand" (Abbott-Smith).

BUT ties us to v. 4

⁴ though I also might have confidence in the flesh. If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so:

But what things were gain to me

1. Ritual Circumcision

2. Race Stock of Israel

3. Rank Tribe of Benjamin

4. Repetition Tradition Hebrew of Hebrews

5. Religion Pharisee

6. Reliability Zeal

7. Righteousness His OWN

were gain Imperfect Active Indicative of EIMI

in the past they were continually a gain,

Gain

kerdos: gain

Original Word: κέρδος, ους, τό

Part of Speech: Noun, Neuter

Transliteration: kerdos

Phonetic Spelling: (ker'-dos)

Short Definition: gain, advantage

Definition: gain, advantage, profit.

HELPS Word-studies

Cognate: 2771 *kérdos* – gain (profit), acquired through "faith-trading."

Accordingly, faith (4102 *pístis*) and 2772 (*kérma*) are directly connected (Phil 1:21-25,3:7-9). See 2770 (*kerdainō*).

This is reference to the Profit and Loss ledger

I have counted Perfect Middle Indicative

_____ I have counted continually now since Christ confronted me, all loss

Counted

hégeomai: to lead, suppose

Original Word: ἡγέομαι

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: hégeomai

Phonetic Spelling: (hayg-eh'-om-ahee)

Short Definition: I lead, think

Definition: (a) I lead, (b) I think, am of opinion, suppose, consider.

HELPS Word-studies

2233 *hēgéomai* (from **71** /*ágō*, "to lead") – properly, to lead the way (going before as a *chief*) – cognate with **2232** /*hēgemón* ("a governor or official who leads others").

2233 /*hēgéomai* ("what goes before, in front") refers to *coming first in priority* such as: "the leading thought" in one's mind, i.e. to esteem (regard highly); or a leading authority, providing leadership in a local church (see Heb 13:7,17,24).

[**2233** /*hēgéomai* ("an official who *leads*") carries important responsibility and hence "casts a heavy vote" (influence) – and hence deserve cooperation by those who are led (Heb 13:7; passive, "to esteem/reckon heavily" the person or influence who is leading).]

all Loss

zémia: damage

Original Word: ζημία, ας, ἡ

Part of Speech: Noun, Feminine

Transliteration: zémia

Phonetic Spelling: (dzay-mee'-ah)

Short Definition: damage, loss

Definition: damage, loss, detriment.

HELPS Word-studies

Cognate: 2209 zēmía – damage (detriment); a mercantile term for "loss"; a "bad deal" (unsuccessful business transaction) which results in a *fine* (*penalty*, forfeiture).

V.8 yet indeed I also count all things loss

8 ἀλλὰ

But

μὲν ,
yes rather

οὖν
Therefore

γε ,
indeed kai

καὶ
also

Paul, intensifies the contrast by a string of Particles in the Greek to make the Conjunction "But" that much Stronger

v 8 b for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish,

Suffered — Aorist Passive Indicative

orist passive, no doubt indicates the one time in past when on the Damascus Road, Paul was Changed by Christ and suffered the loss of all he had to come to Christ

zémioó: to damage, suffer loss

Original Word: ζημιόω

Part of Speech: Verb

Transliteration: zémioó

Phonetic Spelling: (dzay-mee-o'-o)

Short Definition: I inflict loss upon, punish

Definition: I inflict loss (damage) upon, fine, punish, sometimes with the acc. of the penalty, even when the verb is passive.

HELPS Word-studies

2210 zēmióō (from **2209** /zēmía, "loss") – to cause or experience *loss* (*forfeiture*), especially carrying a penalty (significant detriment). See **2209** (zēmía).

2210 /zēmióō ("experience loss") is pointedly used in Phil 3:8. Here Paul shares the irony of how *loss brings gain*. As a person grows in knowing Christ they willingly "lose" their "right" to be *self-governing* – to *gain* eternal significance in every scene of life by living in faith ("His inworked persuasion," **4102** /pístis, Phil 3:8,9). This eternal gain always follows, no matter how "menial" or "mundane" the faith-scene *seems* to be (cf. Mt 13:31,32,17:20).

[Heeding this lesson brings incalculable gain (1 Cor 2:9; 1 Jn 4:17) – and ignoring it results in tragic, eternal loss (1 Cor 3:15).]

Rubbish

skubalon: refuse

Original Word: σκύβαλον, ου, τό

Part of Speech: Noun, Neuter

Transliteration: skubalon

Phonetic Spelling: (skoo'-bal-on)

Short Definition: refuse, dregs

Definition: refuse, dregs, dung.

HELPS Word-studies

4657 *skýbalon* (from **2965** /*kýōn*, "dog" and **906** /*bállō*, "throw") – properly, waste thrown to dogs, like filthy scraps of garbage (table-scraps, dung, muck, sweepings); (figuratively) *refuse*, what is good-for-nothing except to be discarded (used only in Phil 3:8).

Mark 8:35

³⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? ³⁷ Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

Matt. 10:39

³⁹ He who finds his life will lose it, and he who loses his life for My sake will find it.

Luke 9:24

²⁴ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will save it. ²⁵ For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world, and is himself destroyed or lost?

Luke 17:33 Context of Persecution of Antichrist

³³ Whoever seeks to save his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life will preserve it.

John 12:24

²⁴ Most assuredly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the ground and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it produces much grain. ²⁵ He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Matt. 19:29

²⁹ And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or wife or children or lands, for My name's sake, shall receive a hundredfold, and inherit eternal life.

Mark 9:43

⁴³ If your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter into life maimed, rather than having two hands, to go to hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched—⁴⁴ where

*'Their worm does not die
And the fire is not quenched.'*

⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame, rather than having two feet, to be cast into hell, into the fire that shall never be quenched—⁴⁶ where

*'Their worm does not die
And the fire is not quenched.'*

⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to sin, pluck it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye, rather than having two eyes, to be cast into hell fire—⁴⁸ where

*'Their worm does not die
And the fire is not quenched.'*

Jim Elliott missionary martyr had the same attitude as Paul writing that

He is no fool to give what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.

You may be familiar with the story of the slaveowner and his godly slave. This particular slave was always happy and singing all the time. No matter what anyone did to him, he never changed. One day his master said to him, "What have you got?" The slave said, "I love the Lord Jesus Christ because He has forgiven my sin. And that puts a song in my heart." The master said, "I want what you have." The slave replied, "Then go put on your white suit and come down here and work in the mud with us. Then you can have what I have." The master said that was beneath him and rode away. But he came back later because he so admired the slave's attitude toward life. He said once again, "What do I have to do to have what you have?" The slave again replied, "Put on your white suit and work in the mud with us. Then you can have it." But he rode off in a huff. Some weeks later he returned and said, "I want you to give it to me straight. What do I have to do to have what you have?" The slave said, "I already told you what you have to do." Finally in desperation the master said, "I'll do it." The slave replied, "Good! Then you don't have to. You only had to be willing to do it." I'm not saying God will make you a martyr. But if you come to Jesus Christ on His terms, you better be willing to be one if God so chooses. Be willing to lose your life if necessary to gain eternal life rather than try to preserve your life here at all costs and forfeit eternal life.

II. Paul's Gain

A. Knowledge of Christ

B. Righteousness of Christ