WHAT PAUL REALLY THOUGHT OF HIS RELIGIOUS WORKS!

(Philippians 3:7-9)

I. PAUL WARNED THE PHILIPPIANS OF DOCTRINAL ERROR (3:1-6)

- A. If the apostle were one to boast about his ______ in, humanly speaking. (3:4-6)
 - 1. circumcised the eighth day
 - 2. of the stock of Israel
 - 3. of the tribe of Benjamin
 - 4. a Hebrew of the Hebrews
 - 5. concerning the law, a Pharisee
 - 6. concerning zeal, persecuting the church
 - 7. concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless

II. PAUL COUNTED ALL THINGS AS LOSS FOR CHRIST HIS SAVIOR (3:7-9)

- B. The verb, *"I have counted* (<u>perf</u>./indic.)" informs us that what Paul had once viewed as religious gains (once converted), he then made a conscious choice to adamantly ______ all of them collectively as ______. (3:7b)
- C. What was true on that glorious day when he got saved was ______ very true 25 years later (*"I count"* --<u>pres</u>./indic.) when the apostle wrote this letter (3:8a)

D. When comparing those "*things*" which were now on the ______ side of the ledger they could not possibly even come close to the excellent ______ of Christ Jesus his Lord. (3:8b)

- E. For the third time Paul expressed with passion how he had "suffered the loss of all things" (3:8c)...
 - 1. The inclusive phrase *"all things"* goes ______ the things once listed as gains in 3:5-6.
 - 2. This former rising Pharisaic star lost his ______, all his ______, all his ______, as well as his potential fame and fortune.

* 2 Corinthians 11:22-28

- F. For the third time the apostle underscored how he "*counted*" everything in his former human experience as but ______ or useless ______ fit for the dogs; with the sole purpose that he would ______ his Savior personally. (3:8d)
- G. Paul recognized that he once had ______ righteousness as he ______ to keep the Mosaic Law, which of course was the ______ kind of righteousness. (3:9a)
- H. On the day he got saved, he received perfect ______ righteousness from God, which came by ______ in the Lord Jesus. (3:9b)

* How can you apply these truths in your life?