

Welcome to Promise Land Bible Church
We're glad you're here!





Praise and Prayer Request

Philippians 1:3-6 I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

An open Bible is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with text, which is slightly blurred. The background is a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text 'Call to Worship' and 'Psalm 4' is overlaid in the center of the image in a large, bold, black font.

Call to Worship

Psalm 4

Psalm 4 Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness! You have given me relief when I was in distress. **Be gracious to me and hear my prayer!** O men, how long shall my honor be turned into shame? How long will you love vain words and seek after lies? But know that the LORD has set apart the godly for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him. Be angry, and do not sin; ponder in your own hearts on your beds, and be silent. Offer right sacrifices, and **put your trust in the LORD.** There are many who say, "Who will show us some good? Lift up the light of your face upon us, O LORD!" You have put more joy in my heart than they have when their grain and wine abound. In peace I will both lie down and sleep; for you alone, O LORD, make me dwell in safety.

Jesus is Lord of All

Hymn 235



My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Hymn 84



Receiving of the Offering



2 Cor. 9:5 So I thought it necessary to urge the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for the gift you have promised, so that it may be ready **as a willing gift**, not as an exaction.

Famous Quote:

“Conscience is the internal perception of God’s Moral Law.”

OSWALD CHAMBERS

An open book is shown from a low angle, looking up at the pages. The pages are filled with small, dense text, likely a Bible. The book is set against a bright blue sky with wispy white clouds. The text is overlaid in a large, bold, black font.

Today's Message

“Surpassing Worth”

Scripture text: Philippians 3:1-11

Philippians 3:1-4 Finally, my brothers, **rejoice in the Lord**. To write the same things to you is no trouble to me and is safe for you. **Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh**. For we are the circumcision, **who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh**--though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:

Philippians 3:8-11 Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing **Christ Jesus my Lord**. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and **count them as rubbish**, in order **that I may gain Christ and be found in him**, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith--**that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead.**

It is easy for us to get wrapped up in “things,” not only the tangible things that we can see, but also the intangibles such as reputation, fame, achievement. Paul writes about “what things were gain” to him (Phil. 3:7); he also mentions “things which are behind” and “things which are before” (Phil. 3:13). In Paul’s case, some of these “things” were intangible, such as religious achievements (Gal. 1:14), a feeling of self-satisfaction, morality. **We today can be snared both by tangibles and intangibles, and as a result lose our joy.**

Galatians 1:11-16 For I would have you know, brothers, that the gospel that was preached by me is not man's gospel. For I did not receive it from any man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through a revelation of Jesus Christ. **For you have heard of my former life in Judaism, how I persecuted the church of God violently and tried to destroy it. And I was advancing in Judaism beyond many of my own age among my people, so extremely zealous was I for the traditions of my fathers.** But when he who had set me apart before I was born, and who called me by his grace, was pleased to reveal his Son to me, **in order that I might preach him among the Gentiles,** I did not immediately consult with anyone;

But even the tangible things are not in themselves sinful. God made things, and the Bible declares that these things are good (Gen. 1:31). God knows that we need certain things in order to live (Matt. 6:31–34). In fact, He “giveth us richly all things to enjoy” (1 Tim. 6:17). But Jesus warns us that our lives do not consist in the abundance of the things that we possess (Luke 12:15). **Quantity is no assurance of quality.** Many people who have the things money can buy **have lost the things that money cannot buy.**

In Paul's case, the "things" he was living for before he knew Christ seemed to be very commendable: a righteous life, obedience to the Law, the defense of the religion of his fathers. **But none of these things satisfied him or gave him acceptance with God.**

Like most "religious" people today, Paul had enough morality to keep him out of trouble, but **not enough righteousness to get him into heaven!** It was not bad things that kept Paul away from Jesus—it was good things! **He had to lose his "religion" to find salvation.**

One day, Saul of Tarsus, the rabbi, met Jesus Christ, the Son of God, and **on that day Saul's values changed** (read Acts 9:1–31).

When Saul opened his books to evaluate his wealth, **he discovered that apart from Jesus Christ, everything he lived for was only refuse.** He explains in this section that there are only two kinds of righteousness (or spiritual wealth)—works righteousness and faith righteousness—and **only faith righteousness is acceptable to God.**

Philippians 3:7 But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ.

Hebrews 11:24-26 By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

Paul's gains (vv. 8–11). Jim Elliot has said: **“He is no fool to give what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose.”** This is what Paul experienced: he lost his religion and his reputation, but he gained far more than he lost.

The knowledge of Christ (v. 8). This means much more than knowledge about Christ, because Paul had that kind of historical information before he was saved. To **“know Christ” means to have a personal relationship with Him through faith.** It is this experience that Jesus mentions in John 17:3. You and I know about many people, even people who lived centuries ago, but we know personally very few. **“Christianity is Christ.”**
Salvation is knowing Him in a personal way.

The righteousness of Christ (v. 9).

Righteousness was the great goal of Paul's life when he was a Pharisee, but **it was a self-righteousness, a works righteousness, that he never really could attain.** But when Paul trusted Christ, he lost his own self-righteousness and **gained the righteousness of Christ.** The technical word for this transaction is imputation (read Rom. 4:1–8 carefully). It means **“to put to one's account.”** Paul looked at his own record and discovered that he was spiritually bankrupt.

Romans 4:4-8 Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, **his faith is counted as righteousness**, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven, and whose sins are covered; blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

1 John 3:13-17 Do not be surprised, brothers, that the world hates you. **We know that we have passed out of death into life, because we love the brothers.** Whoever does not love abides in death. **Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life abiding in him.** By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. **But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?**



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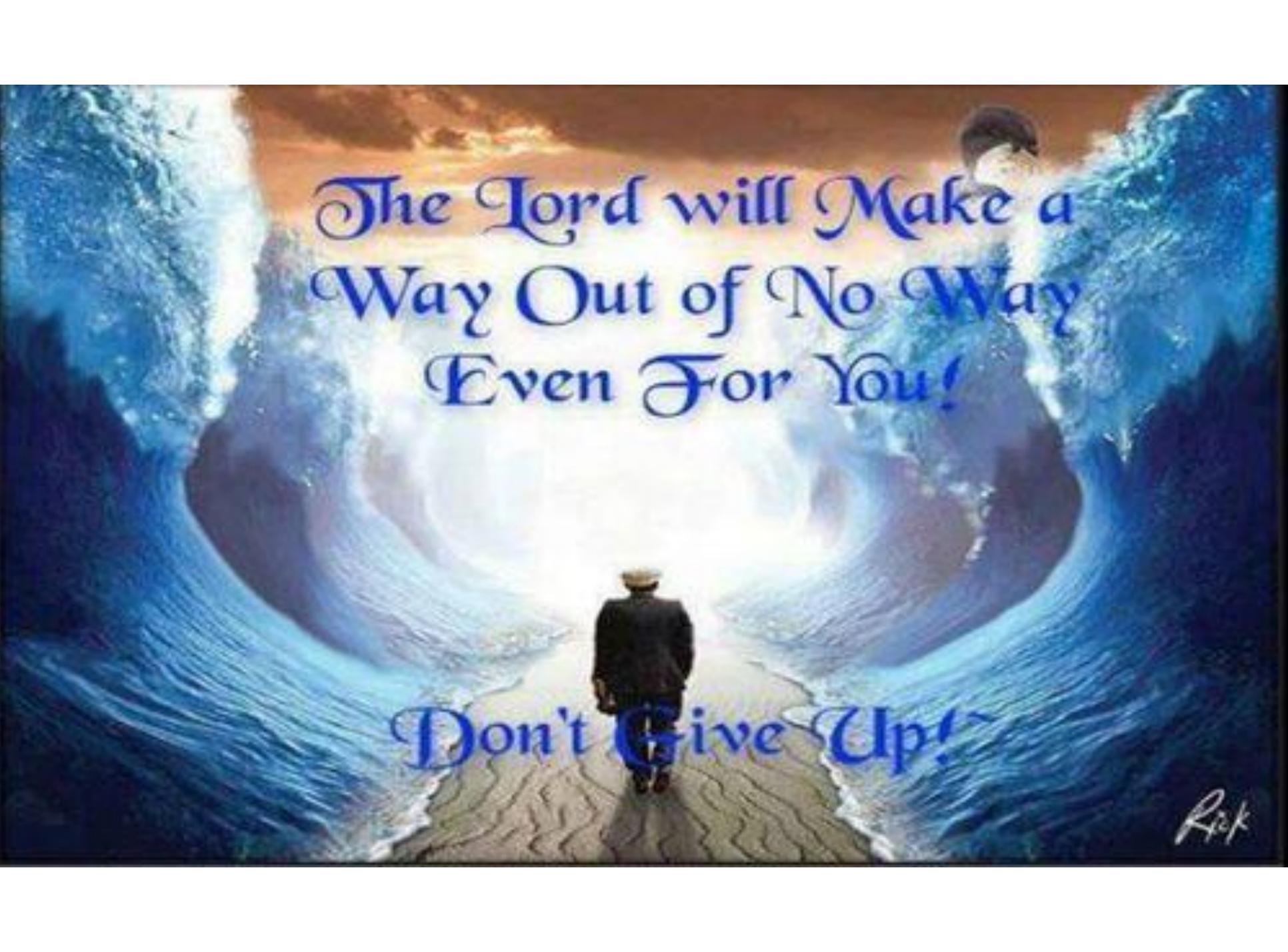
Galatians 5:13-17 For you were called to freedom, brothers. Only **do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another.** For the whole law is fulfilled in one word: "**You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**" But **if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another.** But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. **For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh,** for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do.



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Matthew 16:24-26 Then Jesus told his disciples, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world and forfeits his soul? Or what shall a man give in return for his soul?"

Luke 14:33 So therefore, any one of you who does not renounce all that he has cannot be my disciple.

A man in a dark coat and hat walks away from the viewer down a path of light that cuts through a stormy sea. The path leads towards a bright, glowing horizon. The sky is dark and cloudy, with a small figure of a man in a hat visible in the upper right. The overall mood is one of hope and perseverance.

The Lord will Make a
Way Out of No Way
Even For You!

Don't Give Up!

Rick

Holy Communion



The Family of God

I'm so glad to be part of the family of God

**I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by
His blood**

Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod

For I'm part of the family, the family of God.