

Celebrating 50 years of Proclaiming Christ
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Losing to Win Christ

Philippians 3:4-11



⁴ Though I might also have confidence in the flesh. If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more: ⁵ Circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, an Hebrew of the Hebrews; as touching the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ Concerning zeal, persecuting the church; touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless. ⁷ But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. ⁸ Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,



⁹ And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith: ¹⁰ That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; ¹¹ If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.



Philippians 3:4



- Though I might also have confidence in the flesh.

**How is Paul using
“in the flesh?”**

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In the Flesh

Is the human ability to obey
the Mosaic law in order to
please God enough for
eternal life.



Philippians 3:4



- If any other man thinketh that he hath whereof he might trust in the flesh, I more:

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Notice

Paul's Pedigree



Philippians 3:5



- Circumcised the eighth day,
- of the stock of Israel,
- of* the tribe of Benjamin,
- an Hebrew of the Hebrews;
- as touching the law, a Pharisee;

Pharisee



- a member of a Jewish sect of the intertestamental period noted for strict observance of rites and ceremonies of the written law and for insistence on the validity of their own oral traditions concerning the law

Merriam-Webster

Philippians 3:6



- Concerning zeal, persecuting the church;
- touching the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.

Philippians 3:7



- But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.

V. 8

What does Paul mean here?

Philippians 3:8



- 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

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**The reason some people
do not come to CHRIST is
because they are NOT
willing to lose anything or
everything!**



Luke 5:11

Concerning Peter, James, John

- And when they had brought their boats to land, **they left everything and followed him [Jesus].**



You might have to lose

- Friends
- Family
- Status or Prestige
- Lifestyle
- Income
- Opportunities



Luke 18:22 (ESV)

To the rich young ruler

- When Jesus heard this, he said to him, “One thing you still lack. **Sell all that you have and distribute to the poor,** and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me.”



Philippians 3:8



- for whom I have suffered the loss of all things,

**What had Paul
lost?**

Paul Lost

- Earthly power
- Prestige
- Income
- Protection
- Friends

Prestige, *noun*: Influence or reputation derived from achievements, associations, or character, or (esp.) from past success; a person's standing in the estimation of others.



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**Do I have to lose
anything to come to
Christ in America?**



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**Our immediate
reaction may be 'no'
but is that really true?**





Who is this?





Authentic Discipleship

- May result in loss of popularity among peers
- May result in looks and words of disgust
- May result in alienation
- May result in strained family relationships



Philippians 3:8



- Yea doubtless, and I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:

ESV

- Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.

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**What must be true
about Christ to make
losing everything to
gain Him worth it all?**



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**He Must be the
Sovereign Lord!**



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**Do you
Know Christ Jesus?
Is He your Lord?**



Do you

- Know how Jesus would think on an issue?
- Have a relationship with Jesus?
- Adore Him?
- Live for Jesus or yourself?
- Care?



Philippians 3:8



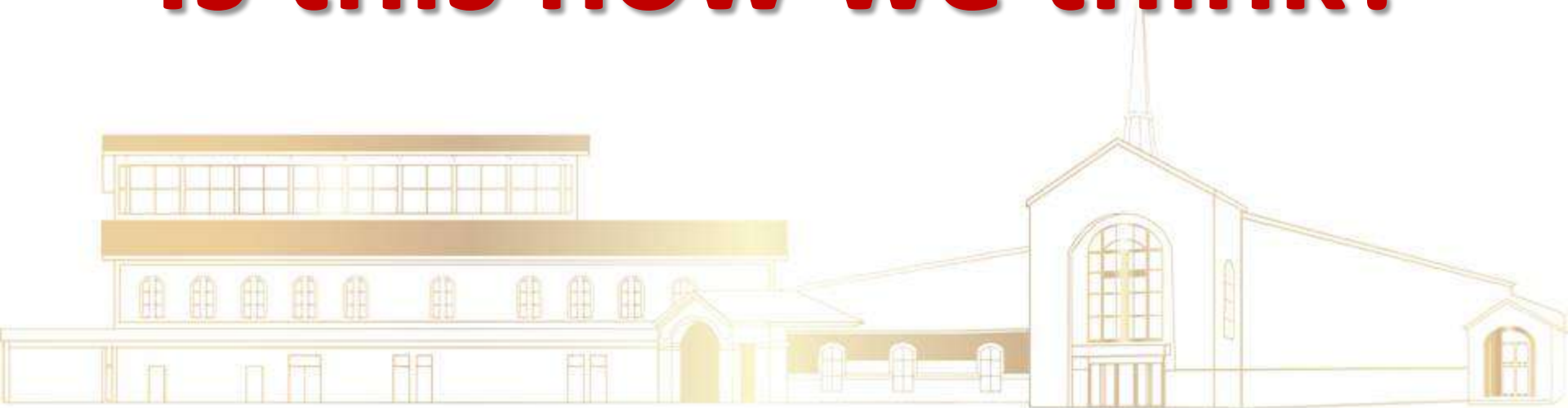
- and do count them *but* dung,
that I may win Christ,

NET

- I regard them as dung!—that
I may gain Christ,

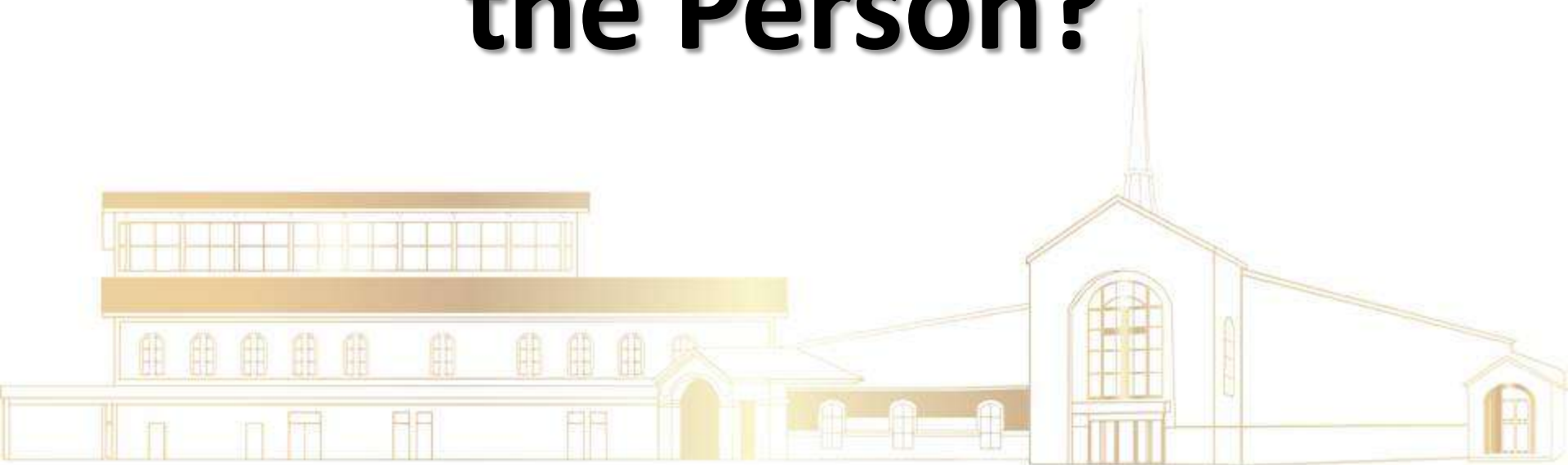
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**Winning or gaining
Christ—
Is this how we think?**



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**Don't we think in terms
of the benefits before
the Person?**



Philippians 3:9



- **And be found in him,**

Romans 8:1a

- *There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus,*



1 Corinthians 15:22

- For as in Adam all die,
- so also in Christ shall all be made alive.



2 Corinthians 5:17

- Therefore if any man *be* in **Christ**, *he is* a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.



1 Thessalonians 4:16

- For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: **and the dead in Christ shall rise first:**



**Christians understand that
righteousness obtained by
obeying the law is entirely
insufficient. V. 9**



Philippians 3:9



• **not having**
mine own righteousness,
which is of the law,

Let's Clarify!

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Jesus Said:

For I tell you, unless your
righteousness exceeds that
of the scribes and Pharisees,
you will never enter the
kingdom of heaven.

Mt 5:20



My Own Righteousness

- Is wholly inadequate
- Does NOT get me saved
- Is completely insufficient to keep me saved
- Is a by-product of obedience to my Lord



John 10:27

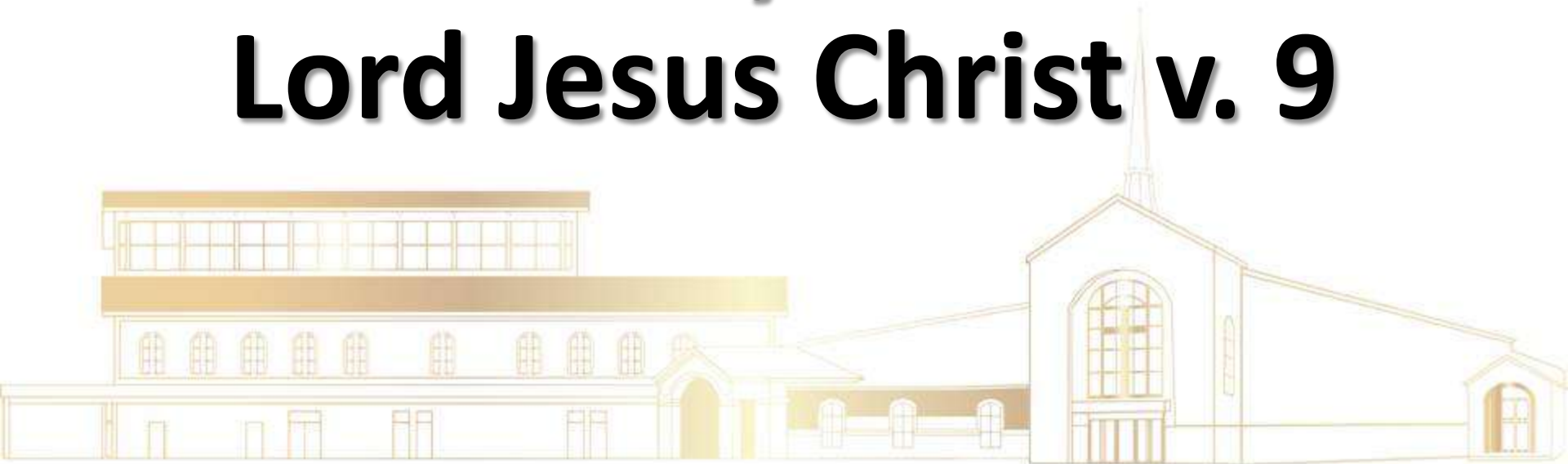
- My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me.

Following Christ creates personal righteousness.



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**Christ's all-sufficient
Righteousness is
obtained by faith in the
Lord Jesus Christ v. 9**

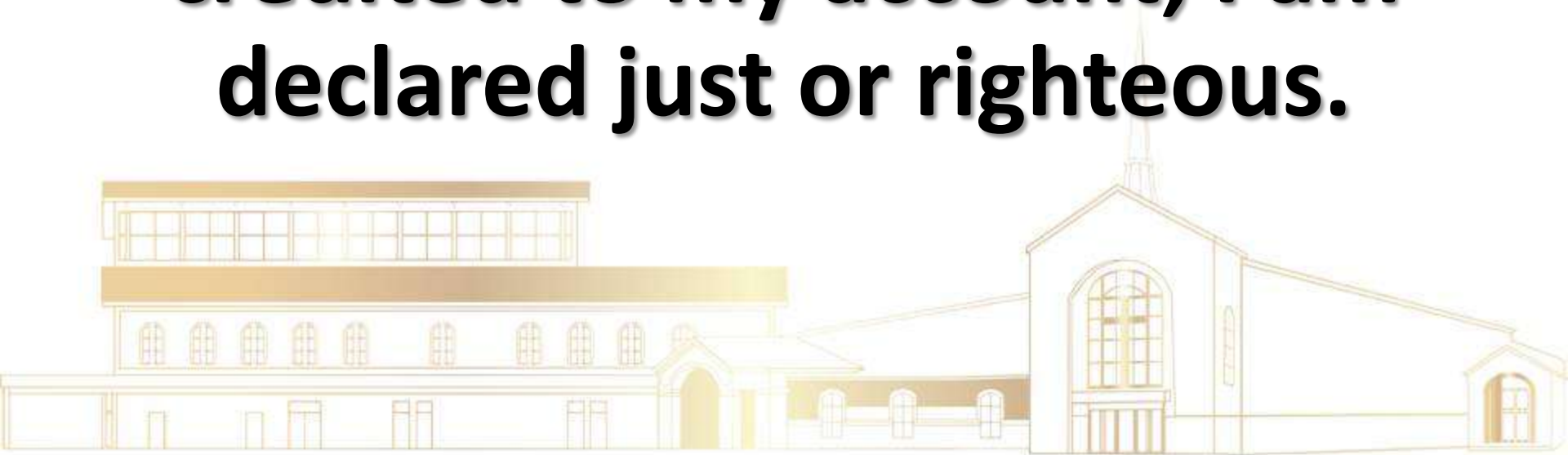


Philippians 3:9



- but that which is through the faith of Christ,
- the righteousness which is of God by faith:

**This is our doctrine of
justification by faith alone.**
**When Christ's righteousness is
credited to my account, I am
declared just or righteous.**



Philippians 3:10

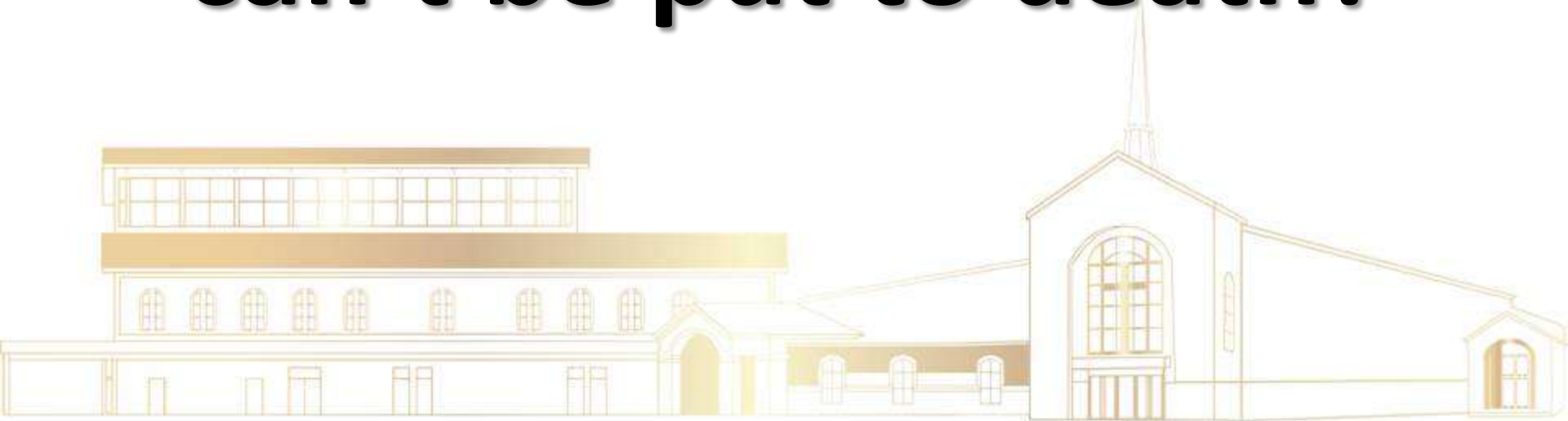


- That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection,

In what way is the resurrection powerful?

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**Consider the magnitude
of your power if you
can't be put to death?**





**Are we NOT fascinated by
power?**

John 10:15-17

- Just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and **I lay down my life for the sheep**. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷ For this reason the Father loves me, **because I lay down my life that I may take it up again.**



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V. 10

**Paul's next statement is
exceptionally difficult to
embrace.**



Philippians 3:10



- and the fellowship [sharing] of his sufferings,
- being made conformable unto his death;

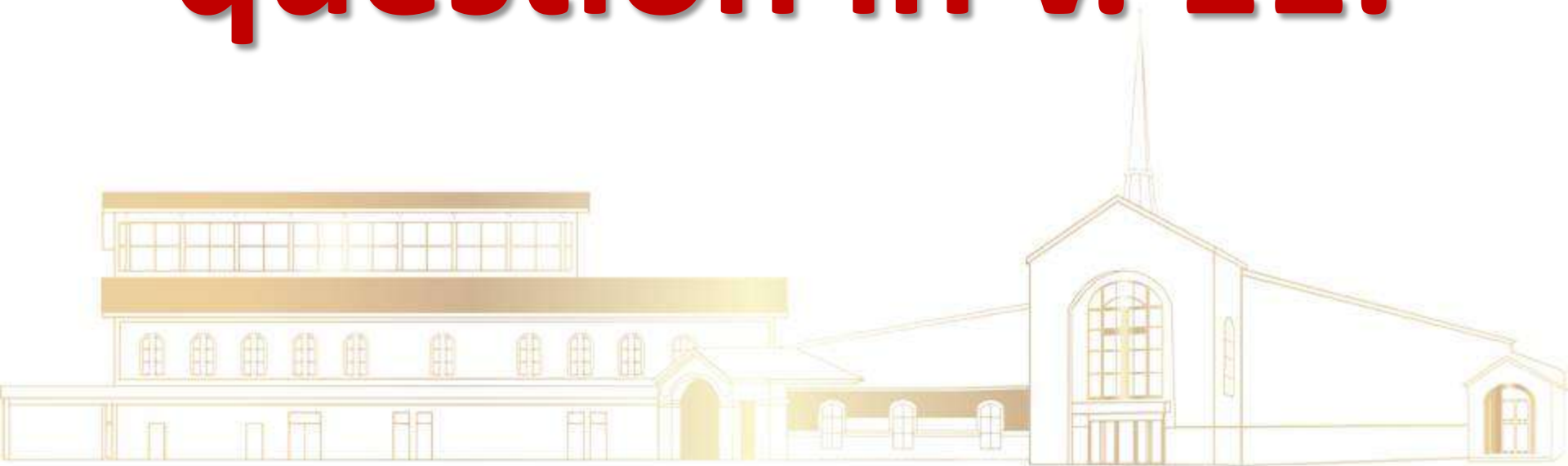
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**Why would you
embrace someone or
something that will
result in suffering and
loss?**



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**Paul answers this
question in v. 11.**



Philippians 3:11



- If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.