

**The Goal of Christian Living**  
**TS022**

**That I May Know Him**  
**4367**

**I. Motivation (Phil. 3:7–14)**

- A. Paul's motivation: *To know Him*
  - 1. Paul already saved 20 years when he wrote these words
  - 2. A lot of believers are saved by a "Stranger"—they don't *know* the Savior
  - 3. Not enough to know *about* Him
- B. What is your motivation?
  - 1. Do you take your life and add Christian labels? —*or* is your whole life and motivation changed?
  - 2. Reevaluate your Christianity—"bend the church and bow the world."
  - 3. Let a man examine himself: Are you a channel or a barrier?
- C. The New Testament is tied up with knowing God (a Person)
  - 1. Jesus: "I am the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6)
    - a. Truth is a Person
    - b. Life is a Person
    - c. Peace is a Person (Eph. 2:14)
  - 2. Christian life is a pathway, not a static condition (Prov. 4:18)—complacency is one of the biggest problems of contemporary Christians

**II. Knowing God**

- A. How? Ongoing fellowship
  - 1. Daily, intimate
  - 2. Not religion
  - 3. Walk with God—like:
    - a. Enoch, who walked with God and was no more
    - b. Noah, who walked with God and was saved through the flood
    - c. Abraham, who walked with God and became His friend
  - 4. Relationship should lead to fellowship
- B. Three marks of knowing God
  - 1. If we *keep His commandments* (1 John 2:3–4)
  - 2. Whoever *abides in Him* does not sin (i.e. regularly practice sin [1 John 3:6])
  - 3. Everyone *who loves*, knows God (1 John 4:7–8)
- C. Know Him, and the power of His resurrection *and* the fellowship of His sufferings
  - 1. Do you want *all* these?
  - 2. Paul: "I now rejoice in my sufferings for you . . ." (Col. 1:24)
  - 3. "I endure all things for the sake of the elect (2 Tim. 2:10)
- D. Humble yourself first—through confession
  - 1. To one another
  - 2. To God
  - 3. Only confessed sins are forgiven sins

**That I Might Attain to the  
Resurrection from the Dead  
4368**

**I. Paul's Life Aims (Phil 3:7–14)**

- A. That I may know Him (1 John)—which means:
  - 1. Keep His commandments (2:3–4)
  - 2. Do not sin (3:6)
  - 3. Love one another (4:7–8)
- B. That I may attain to the resurrection from the dead
  - 1. The “out-resurrection” (or “first resurrection”—blessed and holy (Rev. 20:6)
  - 2. By any means—no matter what it costs
    - a. Paul did not take it for granted
    - b. Resurrection—not heaven—is our ultimate goal
  - 3. Heaven = Depart and be with Christ (Phil. 1:23), a resting place, not a final destination

**II. Focus on the Return of Christ and Resurrection**

- A. Eager anticipation
  - 1. Eagerly wait for Him (Heb. 9:28)
  - 2. Hope of Christ's appearing—holiness—Christ purifying (Titus 2:11–14)
- B. Redemption of the body
  - 1. Spirit, soul and body (1 Thess. 5:23–24)
  - 2. Redemption of the body (Rom. 8:23)
  - 3. Transformation of the body (Phil. 3:20–21)
  - 4. To be like the Lord—emphasis on self-purifying (1 John 3:1–3)
- C. All creation waiting
  - 1. For the revealing of the sons of God (Rom. 8:18–22 [compare Col. 3:3–4])
  - 2. All nature expectant (Ps. 96:11–13; 98:7–9)
- D. What will it be like? (1 Thess. 4:13–18)
  - 1. Shout of the Lord
  - 2. Voice of the archangel
  - 3. Trumpet of God
  - 4. Caught up = *harpazo*—a sudden, forceful act
- E. Five changes: (1 Cor. 15:35–54)
  - 1. Corruption → Incorruption
  - 2. Dishonor → Glory
  - 3. Weakness → Power
  - 4. Natural (soulish) → Spiritual
  - 5. Mortal → Immortal

**III. How Do We Qualify?**

- A. Holiness (Heb. 12:14)
- B. Expectancy (Heb. 9:28)
- C. Watch, keep watch, be on the alert (Mark 13:35–37)