

MAKING PEACE WITH YOUR PAST

February 6, 2022 Philippians 3:3-16 by Bob Branch
Joy Infusion, part 14

BIG IDEA: Making peace with your past so it doesn't become your present and your future.

⁴ though I myself have reasons for such confidence. If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

⁷ But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them *garbage* that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ—yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

- **Gains/Worth it:** Knowing Messiah, set right by him, called-repurposed, eternity (rez), sharing his suffering.
“This is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent.” **John 17:3**
- **Loses/Not Worth it (*garbage*):** all he was, valued, leaned-on for confidence. ...Garbage. Refuse. Dung.

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already arrived at my goal, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

1. Honest self-assessment. _____ (Ps. 42)
2. Change what you're pursuing. _____ (Mt. 6:33; 2 Cor. 5:17)
3. Own being taken hold of: _____ (Acts 9:3f)
4. Stop servicing old story: _____ (Gal. 5:13-26)
5. Focus on what lasts: _____ (Col. 3:1-2; Gal. 5:13)

¹⁵ All of us, then, who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.” **3:3-16**

Name your old story.

1. **SIZE UP-REFRAME**
2. **PURSUE HIM**
3. **SURRENDER**
4. **NEGLECT**
5. **ETERNAL-MINDSET**