

GOD IS A CUBS FAN

I. Rejoice in your Relationship with the Lord. vs. 1

- a. The Bible is incredibly repetitive if it is important. Phil 3:1
- b. Remember to “Rejoice” in your relationship with Christ because He owns your past present and future.
- c. “Safeguard.” Paul wants us to safeguard from religion.

II. Religion in place of Relationship Robs Rejoicing. Vs. 2-6

- a. We are secure in Jesus through the spirit vs. 3
- b. Religion circumcises flesh but Jesus circumcises the heart.vs.2-3
 - i. God uses circumcisions to illustrate the intimacy he will bring to you in Jesus. Vs 3
- c. Paul describes his attitude toward religion.
 - i. Vs. 2 Religious leaders are Dogs, evildoers, mutilators
- d. Paul was most religious and yet not godly. Vs. 5-6.
 - i. Pharisees- Paul was among the highest religious leaders in the Jewish community.
- e. Religion dominates relationship when you put ANY (a single piece of) confidence in the flesh. Vs.3

III. Let go of Religion to Rejoice in Jesus. Vs. 7-12

- a. Sometimes a Curse word is describes those things that rob you of rejoicing in Jesus.
 - i. Vs. 8 Paul says religious living is DUNG (Skubala)
 - ii. Vs. 9 seek righteousness in Jesus apart from your spiritual resume’.
- b. Vs. 10 Paul says I just want to know Him to the point of suffering.
 - i. Paul wants to experience Christ to the extent Christ loved.
 - ii. Paul knows if he is faithful in suffering there is nothing else that can lead him to deny Jesus. 1 Pt 4:1