

The Journey:
Making the Most of the Rest of Your Life!
“How ‘Bout Them Dawgs Dogs!”
Philippians 3:1-11
July 27, 2008

Paul’s Denunciation of **Religion** (vs. 2-3)

Note the contrasting nature of religious people vs. Jesus people.

“Beware of the dogs.” (Proverbs 26:11;
2 Peter 2:22; Psalms 59:5-6; Revelation 22:15;
Isaiah 56:10-11)

“Beware of evil workers.”

“Beware of the false circumcision.”
(mutilators)

Paul’s Descriptive **Resume** (vs. 4-6)

Note: “If we are comparing flesh to flesh, I win.”

Paul’s Declaration of His **Relationship** with Christ
(vs. 7-11)

Note: “But it’s not about who keeps the rules...”

Differences between religion and Christianity:

- Religion is about **me**.
- The Gospel is about **Christ**

- Religion says, “Obey God’s rules and he will love you.”
- The Gospel says, “Because I am loved and because I have a new nature I can obey...”

- Religion sees **good** people and **bad** people.
- The Gospel sees everybody as **sinners**.

- Religion** is about what I do (all religions have a “to do” list).
- The **Gospel** is about what Christ has done.

- Religion leads to **uncertainty**.
- The Gospel states “that you may know that you have eternal life.” (1 John 5:13)

- Religion confuses justification and **sanctification**.

What is the real answer? A relationship with Christ!

The **Person** (v. 9)

The **Passion** (v. 10)

The **Pattern** (v. 10)

Application:

1. Are there real differences between religion and Christianity? If so, what are they and are they easily recognizable?
2. Are you ever legalistic? If so, in what ways?
3. Does legalism ever rob you of joy? When was a time in your life that you experienced an abundance of joy?