

## **CONSIDER IT LOSS FOR THE CAUSE OF CHRIST.**

In **MATT 26:41** before His death, Christ told the Apostles while praying in the Garden of Gethsemane to “watch and pray that ye enter not into temptation the spirit is in deed willing but the flesh is weak.” There's a great conflict between the flesh and the spirit. The spirit is eager and ready, but the flesh is feeble. This is something we must deal with our entire life. The question we must ask ourselves and determine in our life is weather were going to surrender to our sinful nature and allow it to control us or weather we will heed to the spiritual demands of GODS WORD and become enslaved to CHRIST? We control this sinful nature by walking in the SPIRIT. To remain in and abide in CHRIST we decide in our heart that we are not going to return to our sinful life. We continue to allow our heart to be circumcised. The Apostle Paul speaks of several things that he determined to leave behind even though it made his fleshly life more difficult. **PHILIPPIANS 3: 3-7 3 FOR WE ARE THE CIRCUMCISION, WHICH WORSHIP GOD IN SPIRIT AND REJOICE IN CHRIST JESUS AND HAVE NO CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH.4 THOUGH I MIGHT ALSO HAVE CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH. IF ANY OTHER MAN THINKETH THAT HE HATH WHERE OF 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.** Paul assures the Philippians that he knows of the power that confidence in the flesh can have. He essentially says If any of you think you have reason to put confidence in the flesh listen to my resume, I have more. Paul goes on to say, “whatever things I thought was to my profit, the things I considered valuable, I now consider worthless for the sake of CHRIST. Whatever in our life we consider profit, weather it be financial gain, what we can get by being dishonest, what we may profit in this life by forsaking the assembly or whatever else it may be, will profit us nothing if we lose our soul. Whatever fleshly desire or worldly possession that’s causing us not to be living a Christian life we need to lay it aside, throw it down, and consider it as loss for the sake of CHRIST.

*Jay Dixon*