

## The Christian's Quest April 6-8, 2019

(Philippians 3:7-14) But whatever was to my profit I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. [8] What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, 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 and is by faith. {10} I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, {11} and so, somehow, to attain to the resurrection from the dead. {12} Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. {13} Brothers, 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. What was your favorite TV cartoon as a child? As an adult?

2. What would you say is the goal of your life?

3. Earlier in his life, what personal qualifications was Paul (Saul) counting on to earn him God's favor? (cf. Phil. 3:2-6).

4. List some advantages that you have been given by God, which if you put their trust in them, would be to your loss, not your gain?

5. Agree/disagree: If you are a Christian, you will go to heaven when you die.

6. "Humans can't win their eternal salvation, but they can lose it." Explain.

7. "Somehow, to attain the resurrection from the dead" (v. 11). NOTE: In Paul's mind, there is no question he'll be raised from the dead. He is, however, uncertain about the mode of his death (e.g. martyrdom, accident, illness, old age, etc.)

8. In your Christian race, what things "behind" do you need to forget? Why?

9. What message will/did you take home from this sermon text?