

1. Describe a time of fiery trial in your life when you knew by faith you were coming-out of it, but it was so intense you were suffering in the course of it. When it was over you had a testimony, and on the end you didn't even smell of the smoke of that fire (ref. see Daniel 3:27).

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All the things that Paul thought once were worthwhile, he now counts loss; for now he knows and possesses the true and excellent knowledge of Christ Jesus our Lord: for whom he has suffered the loss of all things which he now counts them as dung, that he may win Christ (Philippians 3:8), and become one with Him, no longer counting on being saved by being good enough or by obeying God's laws, but by trusting God to save me; for God's way of making us right with Himself depends on faith--counting on Christ alone (Philippians 3:9).

2. What is the difference between the true righteousness and that of the law? (Philippians 3:9)

THAT I MAY KNOW HIM (Philippians 3:10-14)

That I may know Him. Philippians 3:10.

When we are consecrated to Christ Jesus, we genuinely want to know Him in His fullness. For this, we have to spend time in His Word and with Him in a personal way. We worship, we praise, we pray. We get deep into His presence. Then He reveals Himself to us more and more as we seek Him for everything, and in everything. We seek Him to find out what He wants from us each day, how we

can please Him. The more we spend time with Him, He reveals extends to us more and more of His understanding. But we will never fully comprehend the extent of His love for us until we are with Him in eternity.

*That I may know Him, **and the power of His Resurrection.*** Philippians 3:10.

In Romans 6:4 we read, *Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism (into the body of Christ) into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.* That is, our new life in Christ. For the person we used to be is dead and is freed from sin from now on *that we should not serve sin* (Romans 6:6,7).

*That I may know Him, **in the fellowship of His sufferings.*** Philippians 3:10.

For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation (comfort) also aboundeth by Christ (II Corinthians 1:5). We also may fellowship with Him by the experience of our suffering at times; but He doesn't just help us through that fiery trial; He gets in the fire with us. In this way, we learn more about His comfort and His grace working in us. We learn more about Him, and how He works. We learn to keep on going (standing; see Ephesians 6:13,14)) until the fiery trial is over; for at the end of it, we are the better for it. God's glory will be revealed to us and in us (I Peter 4:12). It is a growing process