



- » Rather an approach (righteousness) based on Christ and his work (v9)
- » This righteousness I make my own through faith in Jesus Christ (2x 'faith' in v9)

Faith

- » Not a mere intellectual assent but a personal 'yes' to the person of Christ
- » It is like the faith of the flyer trusting in the action of the catcher

Faith means trusting in the faithfulness of God.

Earl F. Palmer

2. Knowledge

- » "the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord" (v8)
- » "I want to know Christ" (v10)

- » Knowledge based on knowing as personal relationship – not simply knowing as information (see Jeremiah 9:23-24)

- » Knowing as a process whereby we embrace our ultimate goal/ the course of our life of knowing God in Christ
- » A considered resolve of seeking God in all areas of one's life

Two Areas of Knowledge

1. The power (dynamite) of the resurrection (v10)
 - The living power of Jesus in my life as I meet the challenges of life

2. The fellowship (koinonia) of sharing in Christ's suffering

- Speaks to the voluntary displacement of entering into the thick of life and not running away from it
- Speaks of the left-handed power of God who is in solidarity with us

3. Conformity of Life

- » "Becoming like him in his death" (10b)
- » Becoming like = conforming; morphing into the same form (1x in New Testament)

- » A desire to imitate the likeness of Christ in values and actions
- » Enter into the service and love of Christ for others
- » With the goal of entering into resurrection life - life overcoming the reality of death (Greek - nekros) - v11

- » Embracing joy as the centre of our lives because we are touched by resurrection now and not simply death
- » Joy because our confidence is in God who is our ongoing source of life

- » Joy in making the connection of Jesus as our righteousness and our power
- » "Better to have the Messiah, and to follow him through the cross to the resurrection, than to have anything and anyone else in the world."

Tom Wright