



Foreword

The Apostle Paul had a captivated heart because he had received something from God and that something was what he passed on to others. Unless we have received, we have nothing to give.

Many of us were converted to believe in Jesus as our Saviour, but received nothing from God. We maybe do not even know what it is to be forgiven – Oh the joy of forgiveness of sins – because we do not really see ourselves as having been sinners in the first place. If we do not, we miss so much and our hearts remain cold and empty towards God and others.

What did you *receive* from God at the moment of conversion?

If we have never received forgiveness, and understood about forgiveness, then we cannot forgive, because we have no understanding of what being forgiven *feels* like and our soul may be turned towards God, but it is still unsundered to Him and our lives are still a battleground.

If Jesus is your Saviour only and not your Lord, you will experience constant conflict.

Paul's Damascus road experience showed him how he was 'persecuting' Jesus. His response 'Who art Thou Lord?' shows his ignorance at this point and Jesus drove this home by blinding Paul for three days until someone prayed for his sight.

Are you still spiritually blind to what you have received although you are born again?

In another place in the book of Acts, we hear this '*We have not even heard of the Holy Spirit*' – these born again believers had something more to receive from God.

We were built to receive, then to give, unless we are constantly receiving from God we have nothing but ourselves to give and we will run dry very, very, quickly.

Allow the Word of God to be your mirror as you make your way through the book of Philipplians.

May God bless you and prosper you in His Service.

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