

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:

**Whatever gains I had, these I have come
to consider a loss because of Christ.**

**More than that, I even consider everything as a loss
because of the supreme good
of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.**

**For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things
and I consider them so much rubbish,
that I may gain Christ and be found in him,
not having any righteousness of my own
based on the law but that which comes
through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God,
depending on faith to know him
and the power of his resurrection
and the sharing of his sufferings
by being conformed to his death, if somehow
I may attain the resurrection from the dead.**

**It is not that I have already taken hold of it
or have already attained perfect maturity,
but I continue my pursuit in hope
that I may possess it,**

Continued on the Next Page

**since I have indeed
been taken possession of by Christ Jesus.**

**Brothers, I for my part do not consider
myself to have taken possession.**

**Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind
but straining forward to what lies ahead,
I continue my pursuit toward the goal,
the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.**

The Word of the Lord