

# WHY YOU STAY STUCK

**Philippians 3:1-6** says, Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things again is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you. 2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision; 3 for we are the true circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put **no confidence in the flesh**, 4 although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more: 5 circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee; 6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.



There's not really a way to say it any more simplistically - **We stay stuck because many of us spend our entire lives climbing the wrong mountains and/or ladders.** You may have heard that some people climb the ladder only to discover, when they get to the top, that the ladder was leaning on the wrong wall... well that's often the case here as well. Many people lean their ladders against the wall of success and others lean their ladders against the wall of religious success - neither is any better than the other.

The **success** ladder leans against a wall of:

- Physical development in the Childhood years
- Grades in the elementary ages
- Athletic success in the adolescence
- Jobs "what do you do?"
- Status symbols - cars, house, etc

The **religious success** ladder leans against a wall of:

- Salvation
- Baptism
- Righteousness
- Religious roles / deacon, priest, pastor
- Scriptural knowledge

Both ladders are leaning against the wrong wall, and both of these walls miss the point.

If you want to be sure that you are free and never again STUCK... stop measuring yourself against others based on any of the above criteria. Stop measuring yourself at all. Instead measure Jesus, study Jesus, mimic Jesus, and allow Jesus' Spirit, which is already within you, to live out through you. There's no reason to worry ever again about whether or not you've pleased God or whether or not you've lived up some arbitrary standard.

