

**Review**

1. Regarded as brethren
2. Rejoice in the Lord

**The purpose of Paul's writing**

“For me to write the same things to you is not tedious, but for you it is safe.” (Phil 3:1)

1. Γραφειν... grapho... to write... Infinitive of purpose
2. For Paul, he had to reiterate certain things in his writings
3. It was not tedious for Paul to write the same things
4. ασφαλες... asphales... alpha privative + sphales... failing, fall... secure, sure...
  - a. Not to fall but to be safe and secured
  - b. In the view of false teachers and false teachings.

**Warning against false teachers**

“Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation!” (Phil 3:2)

1. Βλεπετε... blepo... I see, look...
2. 3 times this word is used... much emphasis and seriousness
3. Three aspects of the false teachers
  - a. Dogs
  - b. Evil workers
  - c. κατατομην... katatome... cutting down, mutilation

**A reference to the Jewish believers**

“For we are the circumcision, who worship God in the Spirit, rejoice in Christ Jesus, and have no confidence in the flesh,” (Phil 3:3)

1. We are the circumcision
  - a. περιτομη... peritome... circumcision, to cut around
  - b. A reference to Jewish believers

2. Worship of God in the Spirit (John 4:24)
3. Rejoice in Christ Jesus
4. No confidence in the flesh
  - a. πεποιθοτες... peitho... convinced, persuaded... perfect active participle
  - b. Use of the perfect

### **Paul's pedigree**

1. Paul compared his pedigree as a Jew to the Judaizers.
2. Paul once had confidence in the flesh... of following the law  
“though I also might have confidence in the flesh.” (Phil 3:4)
  - a. εχων... echo... have...
  - b. πεποιθησιν... pepoithesis... trust, confidence
3. There was no one who could compare with him concerning his confidence in the flesh  
“If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so.” (Phil 3:4)
4. A description of Paul's confidence in the flesh (Phil 3:5–6)
  - a. The rite of circumcision  
“Circumcised the eighth day”
  - b. Jewish ancestry
    - i. Part of the nation of Israel  
“of the stock of Israel”
    - ii. From the tribe of Benjamin  
“of the tribe of Benjamin”
    - iii. He was a true-blue Hebrew  
“Hebrew of the Hebrews”
  - c. Concerning the law  
“concerning the law, a Pharisee;”
  - d. Concerning zeal  
“concerning zeal, persecuting the church;”
  - e. Concerning the righteousness of the law  
“concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.”