

THE BOOK OF PHILIPPIANS

JOY FOR EVERY SITUATION

PHILIPPIANS CHAPTER 3:12-14

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THE TITLE OF THE MESSAGE:

“ UNTIL WE CROSS THE FINISH LINE ” – PART 1

DISCOVERING THE PRESENCE OF GOD AND HIS JOY IN EVERY SITUATION

SUBJECT TOPICALLY REFERENCED UNDER:

Discipleship, Salvation, Power, Comfort, Growth, Living

Introduction to the Text:

Philippians 3:12-14

Philippians chapter 3 might possibly be the most accurate description of a true Christian life.

The chapter is divided up like a virtual roadmap for the Christian life.

(#1) In **verses 1 to 11** Paul describes his **past** and his monumental religious achievements. Skipping ahead to **verses 17 to 21** he looks **forward** to his future and what God has in store for him, but it is here in **verses 12 to 16** that he reveals to us his **present day** situation.

Philippians 3:12-14

Not that I have already attained, or am already **perfected**; but I **press on**, that I may **lay hold** of that for **which** Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. 13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have **apprehended**; but one thing I do, **forgetting** those things which are behind and **reaching** forward to those things which are **ahead**, 14 I **press toward** the **goal** for the **prize** of the **upward** call of God in Christ Jesus.

Exodus 33:18

And he said, "Please, show me Your **glory**."

Judson Van DeVenter (1855–1939)

All to Jesus I surrender,
All to Him I freely give;
I will ever love and trust Him,
In His presence daily live.

Refrain:

I surrender all,
I surrender all;
All to Thee, my blessed Savior,

I surrender all.
All to Jesus I surrender,
Humbly at His feet I bow;
Worldly pleasures all forsaken,
Take me, Jesus, take me now.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Make me, Savior, wholly Thine;
Let me feel the Holy Spirit,
Truly know that Thou art mine.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Lord, I give myself to Thee;
Fill me with Thy love and power,
Let Thy blessing fall on me.

All to Jesus I surrender,
Now I feel the sacred flame;
Oh, the joy of full salvation!
Glory, glory, to His Name!

As Christians we may have different opinions about this or that.
As Christians we may have peripheral likings about worship or about our dress
but one thing is certain and universal to us Christians and it' s found here in
verses 12 to 14 as the Apostle Paul lays bare the raw and unquenchable passion
of every true believer – to become more like Jesus Christ!

To become more like Jesus Christ is for us to become spiritually mature,

Philippians 3:15

Therefore let us, as many as are **mature**, have this mind;



Mature grk: teleios, tel'-i-os;

to be perfected, to be completed and to grow from that point on.

Christian character, completeness, being of full age.

It's the ignition, the commencement of a fire
that has been kindled by God Himself upon the altar of the true believer's heart.

Paul so casually and yet profoundly lets us into his private, personal
intercourse with God and he does it with a grand assumption - - that we know what he's talking about!

Until We Cross the Finish Line

1.) He has revealed your purpose

vs. 12

Philippians 3:12

Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on,
that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

Until We Cross the Finish Line

He Has Revealed Your Purpose

1a.) And it's beyond your comprehension

vs. 12

vs. 12 Not that I have already **attained**, or am already **perfected**;

What an Awesome Confession

"Not that I have already attained."

(And we had better be careful to see to it that it is our confession as well.)

Here Is an Honest Report of His Own Depravity,
which flies in the face of those legalistic Judaizers in verse 2.

We must always point higher up and look to the heavens in anticipation of
Him, but we must do so **honestly** and **accurately**.

If you're all up into "How Great Thou Art" and how

“You’ ve Done so Much for Jesus” - - there is a great danger to this deception.

“**Successful**” Pastor’s, Preachers and Christian Workers must always be careful to communicate that we have not arrived.

Quoting a Bible verse doesn’ t make it a reality in your life.

Preaching a sermon doesn't automatically mean it’ s my experience in life.

Paul is saying this:

“I want all of you to know at Philippi that I have not yet arrived at being the level of Christian I ought to be like.”

This is the doctrinal reality of **Practical Sanctification**.

To be sanctified is to be taken from one life and placed into a different life.

There are two windows for us to look into regarding sanctification.

Window #1 we see the life-long, daily, hour by hour, moment by moment work of God in our lives (creating within and causing around us – a true witness for Jesus Christ in this world).

Through **Window #2** we see why **Window #1** is in effect in our lives. It’ s through **Window #2** we see the doctrinal reality of **Positional Sanctification** which simply means that **the moment you understood that only Jesus Christ alone can rescue you from your sin and from the powers of hell** – in that second the Holy Spirit of God sealed you, marked you, set you apart, “Sanctified” you as His own.

Hebrews 10:10

By that will we **have been sanctified** through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Hebrews 10:14

For by one offering He **has perfected forever** those who are **being** (teleioo) **sanctified**.

And like a lightning strike – a reality beyond us is revealed.

And the words roll out of our hearts.....

“I have not yet **attained**, or am already **perfected**;

This is why it’s so incredibly bazaar to meet up with a “Proud Christian”. They will always allow carnal things to linger in their lives. They can’t move forward because they are chained to something or things

Psalms 139:1-6

O LORD, You have searched me and known me. **2** You know my sitting down and my rising up; You understand my thought afar off. **3** You comprehend my path and my lying down, And are acquainted with all my ways. **4** For there is not a word on my tongue, But behold, O LORD, You know it altogether. **5** You have hedged me behind and before, And laid Your hand upon me. **6** Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; It is high, I cannot attain it.

COME TO JESUS TODAY

The Cross, The Christ, The Call

End of Study

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