

Seeing Christ's Redemptive Work for Now
Sunday, August 15, 2021

III. ALL OF LIFE must be lived based upon the FACT that Jesus has all authority! His Kingdom has come, and we are actively praying for His Kingdom and His will to come and be DONE ON EARTH LIKE IT IS IN HEAVEN!

A. In Philippians chapter three (3), Paul addresses many things that are challenges to us today! Let's peruse this passage together and see what applies to us!

Philippians 3:1-20 (NLT)

1 Whatever happens, my dear brothers and sisters, rejoice in the Lord. I never get tired of telling you these things, and I do it to safeguard your faith. 2 Watch out for those dogs, those people who do evil, those mutilators who say you must be circumcised to be saved. 3 For we who worship by the Spirit of God are the ones who are truly circumcised. We rely on what Christ Jesus has done for us. We put no confidence in human effort, 4 though I could have confidence in my own effort if anyone could. Indeed, if others have reason for confidence in their own efforts, I have even more! 5 I was circumcised when I was eight days old. I am a pure-blooded citizen of Israel and a member of the tribe of Benjamin—a real Hebrew if there ever was one! I was a member of the Pharisees, who demand the strictest obedience to the Jewish law. 6 I was so zealous that I harshly persecuted the church. And as for righteousness, I obeyed the law without fault. 7 I once thought these things were valuable, but now I consider them worthless because of what Christ has done. 8 Yes, everything else is worthless when compared with the infinite value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have discarded everything

else, counting it all as garbage, so that I could gain Christ 9 and become one with him. I no longer count on my own righteousness through obeying the law; rather, I become righteous through faith in Christ. For God's way of making us right with himself depends on faith. 10 I want to know Christ and experience the mighty power that raised him from the dead. I want to suffer with him, sharing in his death, 11 so that one way or another I will experience the resurrection from the dead! 12 I don't mean to say that I have already achieved these things or that I have already reached perfection. But I press on to possess that perfection for which Christ Jesus first possessed me. 13 No, dear brothers and sisters, I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us. 15 Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. 16 But we must hold on to the progress we have already made. 17 Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. 18 For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. 19 They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. 20 But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.

1. Notice the progression of thought from Paul to the Philippian Church.
2. He says, "I'm gonna tell you some things so that it will SAFEGUARD YOUR FAITH!"
3. We rely on what Christ has done and not on any

“human efforts!”

4. My “over zealous passion” caused me to get some things wrong!
 5. I once thought “getting it right” was the issue, but then I realized I was wrong!
 6. I then realized “our relationship with Christ” was the whole point of life! “Oh, how I want to know Him!”
 7. The “spiritually mature will understand these things!”
 8. Then Paul says something pretty amazing...
“Pattern your life after mine in these things!”
 9. Then, he nails this whole progression of thought:
“WE ARE CITIZENS OF HEAVEN WHERE THE LORD LIVES!”
- B. Paul never says and neither does he ever teach that this world doesn’t matter. He simply says and agrees with what Jesus taught!
1. Remember, that’s the whole “thesis” of this series of messages!
 2. We are reviewing some thoughts around, “All that Jesus taught” the disciples during His earthly ministry!
 3. Jesus said things like:

John 18:36 (NLT)

36 Jesus answered, “My Kingdom is not an earthly kingdom. If it were, my followers would fight to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish leaders. But my Kingdom is not of this world.”

John 15:19 (NLT)

19 The world would love you as one of its own if you belonged to it, but you are no longer part of the world. I chose you to come out of the world, so it hates you.

John 17:14-16 (NLT)

14 I have given them your word. And the world hates them because they do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world. 15 I’m not asking you to take them out of the world, but to keep them safe from the evil one. 16 They do not belong to this world any more than I do.

1 John 2:15 (NLT)

15 Do not love this world nor the things it offers you, for when you love the world, you do not have the love of the Father in you.

C. I am totally convinced that The Church does not understand these principles of living “in this world” from the frame of reference of “the kingdom of heaven!” What is your reference point, your base line, or your measurement?

1. Paul, all throughout his writings, seem to stress this!
Over and over again, he tells us our reference point!

Galatians 3:26-29 (NLT)

26 For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes. 28 There is no longer Jew or Gentile, slave or free, male and female. For you are all one in Christ

Jesus. 29 And now that you belong to Christ, you are the true children of Abraham. You are his heirs, and God's promise to Abraham belongs to you.

2. If you have been "buried with Christ" then you have died to yourself and the way of the world!
3. Your reference point is A CHILD OF GOD!
4. Not a Jew or Gentile! Not a male or female! Not a slave or free man!
5. Now, put that in our context and reference point!

D. Question: Are you an ADMIRER of Jesus...or a follower?

1. Remember, your baptism was your funeral!
2. Anything outside the "life of Christ" that you follow more than you follow Christ is idolatry!
3. Any identity we have MUST BE SECONDARY to being a Child of God!

Matthew 16:24 (TPT)

24 Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If you truly want to follow me, you should at once completely reject and disown your own life. And you must be willing to share my cross and experience it as your own, as you continually surrender to my ways.

4. We will look at and learn His ways.
5. As we do, don't be tempted to "spiritualize" His ways

and make them an “inward philosophy!”

6. Remember...He said be Doers of His Word and not just hearers!