

No TURNING Back ~ Philippians 3:12-16

→ Scripture Reading - Phil 3:10-14

INTRODUCTION

^{3:10} I want to KNOW Christ and the POWER of His resurrection and the FELLOWSHIP of sharing in His sufferings, becoming like Him in His DEATH...

ONE Thing I DO ~ Philippians 3:12-14

¹² Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do:

No present achievement could lull Paul into thinking he already POSSESSED ALL Christ desired for him. Expositors

¹³ But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

There must NEVER be a stalemate in their spiritual growth or a plateau beyond which they cannot climb. BKC

2 Corinthians 5:10 (NIV) ...we must ALL appear before the judgment seat of Christ, that each one may receive what is due him for the things done while in the body, whether good or bad.

IMPLICATION

There should be a continual forgetting of "what is behind," and a relentless centering of our energies and interests on the course that is ahead Expositors

Acts 8:3 (NIV) But Saul began to DESTROY the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off men and women and put them in prison.

Acts 9:1-2 (NIV) ...Saul was still breathing out murderous threats against the Lord's disciples. He went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues in Damascus...

1 Timothy 1:13-14 (NIV) Even though I was once a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent man, I was shown MERCY because I acted in ignorance and unbelief. ¹⁴ The GRACE of our Lord was poured out on me abundantly, along with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus.

→ Do not let the PAST get in the way of Knowing and Growing in your walk with Jesus

ONE thing I DO -

- FORGET the Past
- Push towards the GOAL
- Press on to Win the PRIZE

IMPLICATION

Hebrews 12:1-2 (NIV) ¹ Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. ² Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

→ As we Run Remember we have a Cheering Section

¹ ...we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses

→ Before we Run THROW OFF Everything that Gets in the WAY

¹ ...let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles

→ Run with **PERSEVERANCE**

¹ ...let us run with perseverance

→ Run the **COURSE** set Before **YOU**

¹ ... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

→As we Run our Race we must **FOCUS** on **JESUS**

² Let us fix our eyes on Jesus...

² Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

→**Godliness - spiritual Maturity IS a JOURNEY - not a DESTINATION -**

Walk of MATURITY ~ Philippians 3:15-16

¹⁵ All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶ Only let us live up to what we have already attained.

^{3:16} But we must **HOLD ON TO** the progress we have already made. (NLT)

Christians should **NEVER** be satisfied with yesterday's **GRACE**. DA Carson

Most Christians live far below their position **IN** Christ. Paul's plea to the Philippians was that they **LIVE UP TO** what they had already attained, namely a righteous position in Christ. BKC

IMPLICATION

^{3:16} But we must **HOLD ON TO** the progress we have already made. (NLT)

James 4:17 (HCS) So it **IS** a sin for the person who knows to **DO** what is **GOOD** and doesn't **DO** it.

James 4:17 (NLT) Remember, it **IS** sin to **KNOW** what you **OUGHT** to **DO** and then **NOT DO** it.

→It is more than **Refusing to DO Wrong** - it is also purposely **DOING** what is **RIGHT**

TAKE AWAY ??

^{3:10} I want to **KNOW** Christ... the **POWER** of His resurrection... the **FELLOWSHIP** of sharing in His sufferings... becoming like Him in His **DEATH**...

¹² ...but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

¹² ...I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me His own. ESV

¹⁴ I press on toward the goal to **WIN** the prize...

I want to know You - I want to hear Your voice
I want to know You **MORE**
I want to touch You - I want to see Your face
I want to know You **MORE**