

Striving for the Prize Pt. 2:
The Procedure
Philippians 3:17-21

Introduction:

Goal of Salvation – The goal of salvation is for believers to be conformed to the image of God’s Son. Rom 8:29.

3 Necessary Elements in Pursuing the Prize:

A. Following After Godly Examples

I. Follow Paul’s Example v.17a

- a. Paul urged the Philippians to imitate the way he lived
- b. He was not spiritual perfect (vss. 12-16)
- c. He was an imperfect sinner, in pursuit of the goal of Christ likeness

II. Follow Godly Leaders Example v.17b

- a. Paul was saying to focus on those leaders whose daily walk is in accordance to the pattern of Christ.
- b. This included Timothy and Epaphroditus
- c. Pastors and Elders should be these examples for the body of Christ 1 Tim 4:12

B. Flee From Enemies of the Cross

III. Don’t Follow the Enemies Example v.18

- a. The enemies of the Cross of Christ example is to be avoided
- b. False teachers / preachers have the ability to present themselves as angels of light 2 Cor 11:13-15

Please Turn Over

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- c. Jesus warned about False Teachers Matt 7:15
- d. Try the spirit by the spirit 1 john 4:1-3

IV. Marks of the Enemies of the Cross v.19abcd

- a. They are doomed to destruction 2 Thess 1:9
- b. They serve their own sensual desires 1 Cor 6:13
- c. They glory in their own shame
- d. They are Earthly minded James 4:4

C. Focusing on Expectations:

V. Our Citizenship v.20a

- a. Our citizenship is in heaven
- b. Our name is record in heaven Luke 10:20
- c. We are in the heavenly realms now Eph 2:6

VI. Our Desire for Christ's Return v.20b

- a. We are to eagerly await for our Savior
- b. Christ's return provides us with motivation, accountability, and security
- c. Jesus promises us eternal life and to raise us up in the last days John 6:39-40

VII. Our Prize v.21a

- a. In Christ's return we will have our goal of Spiritual Perfection
- b. We will finally achieve God's goal for us Rom 8:29

VIII. How Will Jesus Do It? v.21b

- a. He has the power to transform our bodies into a glorious body like His