

The Joy in Salvation
Philippians 3:1-4:3

- I. The Admonition Against Judaism 3:1-3
- II. The Autobiography of Paul 3:4-6
- III. The Anticipation of Paul 3:7-14
“Out resurrection- upward call” (reward in the future or power for life in the present)
- IV. The Admonition for Christian Maturity 3:15-4:3
 - A. The Invitation to Unity and Maturity :15-16
Paul exhorts the church to live mature lives with right conduct
 - B. The Invitation to Imitate Paul 3:17
Mimic me I Cor 4:16,11:1 Eph 5:1 IThess.1:6, 2Thess.3:7-9 Hb 6:12,13:7 3Jo 11

Peripeteo (Orthopedic- Podiatry Walk (20 of the 30 times in bible it is in Paul)

Paul hints at the need to imitate and feel the suffering of Christ 1:30-2:4, 18
 - C. The Identity of those who do not Walk 3:18-19
 1. Who are these people?
The world- Non Christians?
Apostate “Christians” who were never saved?
Actual Christians that lost or will lose their salvation?
Actual Christians who are living in sin?
 2. Where are these people?
People living in Philippi
Outside of the city or region who come traveling inside- itinerate teachers.
The same people from 1:15
The same people of 1:28 or 3:2?
 3. What is meant by what is said about them?
(The 4 or 5 descriptions have no finite verbs- it is a very staccato structure)

-Enemies of the Cross-
Jews- Judaizers? II Tim 3:1-9
The Pagan “world” in general?
Christians who do not want to suffer for or on the cross?

-End is destruction (Word play with the Telos- end or mature in :12,15?)
Hell? (Either never saved (O’Brien) or lost salvation (G Fee)

-God is Stomach
Libertines- “eat drink and be merry”- Non Christian or Christian

Jews- Food laws, Christian or not

-Who's glory is shame

They see it as a glorious life but they should see it as shameful.

(Homosexual life style Rom 1:18ff) (Word play on Glory of :21 or irony")

-Minds on Earth

Mind focus 2:2-5 3:15, 4:8. (Rom 12:2!)

4. What does it mean for Paul's people?
 - There is a pattern for them to follow
 - There is a problem to be aware of
 - There are people to avoid

The Christian life is to be lived intentionally, carefully, prudently, and wisely. The Word of God is our guide. (Psalm 1:1-3, 119:10-12) That is why Paul said I Tim 4:6 and II Tim 1:13-14, 2:15, 3:16-4:1-4, **4:13

The church needs to preach and proclaim the teaching of the bible. Jer. 10:21

The Principle and Practice of Separation

How do we balance the principle of living in the world but not being of the world?

How do we view the world- Evil to be avoided or an opportunity to influence?

How do they feel the power of God if we are incognito or absent from their presence?

How do we know when must separate from other Christians?

General

I John 2:15 Don't love the world

Rom 12:2 Don't be conformed

II Cor. 6:14 Don't be bound to an unbeliever

Specific

Rom 16:17-18

II Thess. 3:6-15

II Tim. 3:5?

Romans 12:1-2

Titus 3:9-10

Philippians 3:18-19

*The key in these texts is determining who is involved, what is the issue, why is it an issue and how do we separate- what does that look like?