

Ethics Today in Light of the Eschatology of the Future
Philippians 3:1-4:3. (:20-21)

- 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? Reformed
Actual Christians that lost or will lose their salvation? Arminian
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 or 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

GBC. Joint Heirs
Fred Chay

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

NB. Paul now links Ethics with Eschatology

D. The Impending Future of the Church :20-21

The Already but Not yet

We are in the heavenlies but reside on earth. Eph

We are citizen of Heaven but reside on Earth

Our Present State is to be Transformed and Conformed to Glory

By His Energy and Power. Now and Then. 2 Cor 3:18!!!

Glory doxology. Brilliance, Brightness, Pure and Pristine morally and physically
(Contrast to the Shame which they call Glory :19

The Great Transformation and Conformity to the Glory of Christ: Resurrection Power
Paul wanted to experience the out resurrection power NOW in his life but he knows one day all believers will experience the resurrection power and be transformed from humility of fallen man to glorified saint.

Two passages that outline what lies ahead. I Thess. 3, I Cor. 15

**In light of the ability to experience “out resurrection” power now and in light of the future fact that we shall one day be resurrected- raised immortal- transformed out of the humble human fallen body into the conformity of glory with Christ... how should we then live?
(4:1-3)**

Ethics Is Always Connected To Eschatology