

Philippians Study: Having a Real Relationship with Jesus

Part Three: A New Righteousness

Lesson 10: Philippians 3:15–21

Read the passage carefully several times

1. Paul addresses those who are “mature” in verse 15. But in verse 12 he said it isn’t about being “perfect” or having “arrived.” So how would you define maturity?
2. Paul urges the mature to “think this way” (15a; see also verse 13)? What does it mean to have this mindset, and how does God help us have it (15b)? Why is this way of thinking so essential to Christian life (16)?
3. Next, what does Paul urge the Philippians to do (17)? Briefly review the highlights of his “example” (8,10–11,13–14). How can we “keep our eyes on” and “walk” according to it?
4. What characterizes those who “walk as enemies of the cross of Christ” (18–19)? How does having a “mind set on earthly things” manifest in our culture today, and what is the danger of living like this?
5. Paul says we are citizens of heaven (20–21; see 1:27). If you lived as if your “home” were somewhere else, how would that change your attitude toward your current stress, success, or future goals? In light of verses 20–21, why should we long for the coming of our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ?