



Philippians (Lesson # 28)

Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Let's read the text verses 1-16, beginning with first 7 verses

*** 3:1 Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord. To write the same things *again* is no trouble to me, and it is a safeguard for you.**

2 Beware of the dogs, beware of the evil workers, beware of the false circumcision;

3 for we are the *true* circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh,

4 although I myself might have confidence even in the flesh. If anyone else has a mind to put confidence in the flesh, I far more:

5 circumcised the eighth day, of the nation of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the Law, a Pharisee;

6 as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to the righteousness which is in the Law, found blameless.

7 But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Now verses 8-11

*** 3:8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,**

9 and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith,

10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Some Observations as a review

1:1-2 Salutation v2:

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”

1:3-11 God’s work in believers is perfect v6:

“He who began a good work in you will perfect it until the day of Christ Jesus”

1:12-18 God spreads His gospel even in adversity v12:

“my circumstances have turned out for the greater progress of the gospel”

1:19-30 Believers are united to Christ forever v21:

“to live is Christ and to die is gain”

2:1-4 Believers now should be united to each other v2: “... by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose”

2:5-18 Believers now should be revealing Christ v13:

“it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for *His* good pleasure”

2:19-24 Timothy revealed Christ’s focus on others v20: “For I have no one *else* of kindred spirit who will genuinely be concerned for your welfare”

2:25-30 Epaphroditus revealed Christ’s faithfulness v25: “my brother and fellow worker and fellow soldier, who is also your messenger and minister to my need”

3:1-11 False and True circumcision explained v10 : “that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death”



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Now today's verses 12-16

*** 3:12 Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.**

13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,

14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

15 Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;

16 however, let us keep living by that same *standard* to which we have attained.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Some Observations on verses 8-11 from last week's introduction

***1:8 More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ,**

⁹ and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from *the* Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which *comes* from God on the basis of faith,

¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

¹¹ in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

REVIEW of the: 6 PURPOSE CLAUSES in view / because of the surpassing VALUE of Jesus Christ: *(from last week)*

So that I may:

I. gain Christ

II. be found in Him: discovered / discovered to be, by fellow men, to be in Him

III. KNOW Him – (experiential knowledge of His person)

IV. know the **power of His resurrection**

V. Know the fellowship with His sufferings

VI. Attain to the resurrection of the dead



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Some Observations on verse 10-12 from last week's lesson

***1:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;**

¹¹ in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

What is he wanting to fully obtain?

Refers back to vs. 10, 11:

- **TO KNOW HIM**
- **TO KNOW THE POWER OF HIS RESURRECTION**
- **TO HAVE THE FELLOWSHIP OF HIS SUFFERINGS
(NOT ON THE CROSS; BUT IN THE HERE AND NOW)**
- **CONFORMITY WITH HIS DEATH**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Some Observations on verse 12-13 from last week's lesson

*1:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

¹¹ in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, **but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.**

¹³ Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,

What is he wanting to fully obtain?

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- TO KNOW HIM
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(NOT ON THE CROSS; BUT IN THE HERE AND NOW)
- CONFORMITY WITH HIS DEATH

How is this fully obtained?

- **By pressing onward to take that for which I was taken by Christ Jesus**
- **We reach out to take what God in Christ purposed for us, His kind of life.**
- **We are clay vessels, designed by God, to have His life**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Some Observations on verse 13 from last week's lesson

*1:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

¹¹ in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

¹³ **Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,**

Paul's use of the Running the Race metaphor involves:

- **Don't look back; you keep your eyes forward; what lies behind is a distraction; even good things or accomplishments**
- **Don't carry excess baggage; or drop it ...**
- **Keep your eyes focused on the finish line; ... to keep your direction straight**
- **And stretch / reach for the finish line tape. ... the only use in the N.T.**
- **Merryman: v. 13 is a *men de* construction:
'On the one hand, I forget what's behind,
on the other hand, I reach forward to what's ahead'**
- **It is clear why Merryman calls this the mental dynamics of the Christian life....**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Some Observations on verse 14 from last week's lesson

*1:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

¹¹ in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

¹³ Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,

¹⁴ **I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.**

The race is the life here on earth

- The goal is the finish line v. 11's the ***out-resurrection of the dead*** (or Rapture for those alive in Christ)
- The prize: the actual possession of Christ Jesus Himself in glory, enjoying His presence in our glorified bodies
- The prize is bound up with the calling; promised when the call is issued and given when the call is fulfilled (Vine)
- The upward call (high calling) ***is from heaven and to heaven*** (Vine)



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Some Observations on verse 15

¹⁰ that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

¹¹ in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

¹² Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

¹³ Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,

¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵ **Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;**

**** Therefore as many as are mature, this way [the way of God] should think, and if anything different you are thinking, also this way the God to you will reveal.**

¹⁶ however, let us keep living by that same *standard* to which we have attained.

The Summary to this central message in Philippians is:

- **Our spiritual maturity is God's goal for us**
- **Our thinking can now be persuaded by God to be His thinking**
- **We can have different thoughts than God's**
- **Spiritual maturity is reached by God's pathway, a forward looking process**
- **God is the One who will reveal His pathway, methods & goal to everyone of us**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Some Observations on verse 16

*1:10 that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death;

11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

12 Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,

14 **I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.**

15 **Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;**

16 **however, let us keep living by that same *standard* to which we have attained.**

16 **However, toward that [the goal of God] which we have attained [aor act v, real fact believed], by that [the goal of God] be in [pres active inf, be in the progress of] harmony, that very thing [the goal of God] be [pres act inf, be in the progress of] thinking.

ie, **However, toward that which we have attained, by that be in harmony, that very thing be thinking.**

The Conclusions to this central message are that:

- The call of God is to progressively mature us, that is His goal for us
- The call of God includes us learning to let God show & honor just Christ
- The call of God includes us living in harmony with God's goal
- The call of God includes us thinking His thoughts.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

***1:13** so that my imprisonment in *the cause of Christ* has become well known throughout the whole praetorian guard and to everyone else,

Observations on Chapter 1, verse 13

Does “well known” give us the focus of “has become”?

Yes, this tells us that God has revealed, phanaros, made visible, that this imprisonment is different from human normal imprisonment.

This is divine, & this is something even unbelievers could see was different.

This, “well known” is a key to understanding many passages about God’s ways, because His goal is to consistently communicate with men about Himself.

He reveals Himself in His creation, and in the scriptures we see Him repeatedly showing man His presence. The Star at His birth, the shepherds were told of His birth, and where they could go to see Him.

And the above is repeated for us in Chapter 3:8-16,

**Here is a progressive teaching of God,
that His goal is to reveal Christ in us, His vessels of clay**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

***1:14 and that most of the brethren, trusting in the Lord because of my imprisonment, have far more courage to speak the word of God without fear.**

Observations on Chapter 1, verse 14

What is the significance of the word “most” in this verse?

It indicates that most but not all the brethren reacted correctly to Christ’s imprisonment of Paul.

Is the word “trusting” translated consistently in Philippians?

No, there are 6 places that use this word in Philippians, & it means “persuaded”. The references are; Phil 1:6, 14, 25, 2:24, 3:3, 4. There are 52 uses in NT total.

God persuades, He prods us to action. He arranges the circumstances to get us to think in harmony with His thoughts. So we like Paul, can rejoice in suffering.

Why does God persuade us instead of just making us do His will?

His ways are to have His thinking about revealing His glory and His plan for us is to learn that we share His suffering in preparation as His clay vessels, that He is making us into His instruments for helping others. We can think like Him now!

Eph 4:13 says **God persuades us to have His thinking.**

God says we now have His Spirit and nature and so we can grow and experience both His joy and His pain knowing that each thing He brings our way is;

for our good and that His goal is to reveal and exalt Christ..



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

The emphasis today is the repeated lesson of God

- 1 To have His thinking, during all circumstances**
- 2 To allow Him to reveal to us and show through us Christ's Glory**

**This is God's grace, that we may now live
in harmony with God's supreme purpose:**

**THAT ALL MAY AKNOWLEDGE THE PERFECTION OF HIS SON
the promised CHRIST, JESUS, OUR LORD**

**Coming up is the prize for us in the coming weeks
both citizenship & a personal home in heaven.**

**The following is the preparation for this lesson
of carefully reading and translating
what God has given us in these verses.**

**Upon this foundation
this lesson has been given.**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

***12** Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. **13** Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I do*: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead, **14** I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. **15** Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you; **16** however, let us keep living by that same *standard* to which we have attained.

****12** Not that already I have *finished*, nor have I been finished, but in spite of that, I am pressing forward instead, so that also I may win upon the basis of that which also I was won, by the Christ, Jesus. **13** Brothers, I, myself do not regard to have won one thing except these, on the one hand, forgetting past things, but on the other hand reaching out on forward *things* . **14** Toward *this* goal I pursue, toward the award of the upward call of the God by Christ Jesus.

15 Therefore as many as are mature, this way [the way of God] should think, and if anything different you are thinking, also this way the God to you will reveal. **16** However, toward that which we have attained, by that be in harmony, that very thing be thinking.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Now from Wuest's expanded translation, 3:7-11:

***3:7 But whatever things were to me a gainful asset, these things I have considered a loss when it comes to my acquisition of Christ, and still so consider them. ⁸ Yes, indeed, therefore, at least, even I am still setting all things down to be a loss for the sake of that which excels all others, my knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord which I have gained through experience, for whose sake I have been caused to forfeit all things, and I am still counting them dung, in order that Christ I might gain, ⁹ yes, in order that I might in the observation of others be discovered by them to be in Him, not having as my righteousness that righteousness which is of the law, but that righteousness which is through faith in Christ, that righteousness which is from God on the basis of faith. Yes, for His sake I have been caused to forfeit all things, and I count them but dung, ¹⁰ in order that I might come to know Him in an experiential way, and to come to know experientially the power of His resurrection and a joint-participation in His sufferings, being brought to the place where my life will radiate a likeness to His death, ¹¹ if by any means I might arrive at the goal, namely, the out-resurrection from among those who are dead.**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Wuest's expanded translation continued, 3:12-16:

***3:12 Not that I already made acquisition or that I have now already been brought to that place of absolute spiritual maturity beyond which there is no progress, but I am pursuing onward if I may lay hold of that for which I have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus. ¹³ Brethren, as for myself, as I look back upon my life and calmly draw a conclusion, I am not counting myself yet as one who has in an absolute and complete way laid hold [of that for which I have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus]; but one thing: I, in fact, am forgetting completely the things that are behind, and am stretching forward to the things that are in front; ¹⁴ bearing down upon the goal, I am pursuing on for the prize of the call from above of God which is in Christ Jesus.**

¹⁵ As many therefore as are spiritually mature [in a relative sense], let us be constantly of this mind. And if, as is the case, in anything you are differently minded, and that, in an evil sense, this also will God reveal to you. ¹⁶ Only one thing, so far as we have come, let us keep our lives in the same path.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Vern Peterman's expanded translation, 3:7-11:

***3:7 But whatever things were in the past entered in my personal ledger being valued as gain from my perspective [being my Jewish lineage, heritage and accomplishments as measured by Mosaic Law and the tradition of the Pharisees], those things I have now after careful consideration completely valued as and entered in my personal ledger as a total loss for the sake of Christ. 8 Beyond that, I have a perspective such that I now continually count all things to be entered in my personal ledger as a loss in view of realizing the surpassing value, above all present and former things, of the personal knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all the things I once valued as a gain in my personal ledger, and now continue to count them in value only a totally worthless waste on the basis that I have in the past gained Christ, 9 and in order that I will be found by Him in Him, not then or now having a righteousness from my own self-efforts which has been achieved by keeping the Mosaic Law and the human traditions added to it by the Pharisees, but in sharp contrast, that righteousness which is completely through faith, trust and confidence in the person and work of Christ, that is, the very eternally established measure of absolute righteousness which is Christ Himself, which comes from God only on the basis of faith in Christ,**

10 My aim and constant aspiration is that I would continually know Jesus Christ personally and also know the unique and extraordinary power of His specific resurrection in my present life and that I would know the common participation in His sufferings, by God's doing outwardly expressing the inner nature of Jesus Christ in my life by reason of my being identified with Him in His death; 11 so then – in God-given fulfillment of my confident expectation - I will arrive at the intended destination which is the out-resurrection out from the dead ones, having then, a resurrection body as does Jesus Christ, with whom I have been identified.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Vern Peterman's expanded translation continued, v12-16:

***3:12 Just so you don't misunderstand me, I want you to know that I have not even at this point already taken possession by my own actions of total knowledge of Christ or of conformity with Him, nor have I already been made completely spiritually mature by being conformed to His image by God's own doing, but, I am right now continuing to press on without hesitation or letup in order that I will take down as a prize that for which I also was taken down as a prize by Christ Jesus at the time when He pursued me as a prize. 13 Brethren in Christ – having spiritual relationship with one another because of relationship with Him, I do not make a judgment regarding myself, based on careful consideration, as having already taken down the prize; but I have one thing in my focus: I am constantly in the process of forgetting what lies in the past and I am continually reaching forward to what lies ahead in the future, 14 I am right now continuing to press on without hesitation or letup, looking with constant attention toward the person of Christ for the prize of the upward call of God in the heavenlies, when this life is completed at His declaration, which upward call to me as the victor I have by reason of my being in Christ Jesus, which will bring me to a place of being rewarded by Christ and being fully conformed to Him – only at that victorious moment will my condition be permanently conformed to the position I already have in Christ.**

15 Let us therefore, as the character of those who are approaching spiritual maturity, have this mindset, involving all of the mind, and settled perspectives and values; and if in any regarding any one of you has a mindset that is not in line with what I have written above, He will bring you to a place of personally understanding these essential truths that I have just now written down. 16 however, let us as believers in Christ continue along together in an orderly and consistent manner in our condition, as is fitting to the eternal position that we already have now in Christ.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

* 12 Not that I have already obtained *it* or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus.

¹² Οὐχ [particle or disj part other οὐ] **not**

ὅτι [conj ὅτι] **that**

ἤδη [adverb ἤδη] **already**

ἔλαβον, [v ind aor act 1ps λαμβάνω] **I have** hold, acquire, arrive Basic = take/receive

ἢ [particle or disj part other ἢ] **nor** or

ἤδη [v ind aor act 1ps λαμβάνω] **I have** hold acquired]

τετελείωμαι· [v ind perf pass 1ps τελειόω] **been finished**, been completed

διώκω δέ, [v ind pres act 1ps διώκω] **I am pressing forward**, making haste, running

δέ [conjunction δέ] but, **instead**

εἰ [partical εἰ] if, **so that**, because, 1st class condition assumed true

καὶ [conj καί] and, even, **also**, in spite of that

καταλάβω [v subj aor act 1ps καταλαμβάνω] κατά adds certainty **I may win**

ἐφ' [prep ἐπί] on, (w dat) **upon the basis of**, because of,

ὧ [pro rel dat neut sing ὅς] **that which**

καὶ [conj καί] and, even, **also**,

κατελήφθην [v ind aor pass 1ps καταλαμβάνω] κατά adds certainty **I was won**

ὑπὸ [prep ὑπό] (w pass v & gen focus = means) **by**

τοῦ χριστοῦ Ἰησοῦ. [art+n gen m s ὁ Χριστός Ἰησοῦς] **the Christ, Jesus**

**** My literal translation**

Not that already I have *finished*, nor have I been finished, but in spite of that, I am pressing forward instead, so that also I may win upon the basis of that which also I was won, by the Christ, Jesus .



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

* 13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of *it* yet; but one thing *I* do: forgetting what *lies* behind and reaching forward to what *lies* ahead,

13 Ἀδελφοί, [n voc masc p ἀδελφός] **Brothers**

ἐγὼ [pro pers nom s ἐγώ] **I**

ἐμαυτὸν [pro reflex acc masc s ἐμαυτοῦ] **myself**

οὐ [particle or disj part οὐ] **not**

λογίζομαι [v ind pres mid/pass 1ps λογίζομαι] think, account, consider, **regard**

κατειληφέναι· [v inf perf act καταλαμβάνω] **to have won**, to have laid hold

ἐν [adj nom neut s εἷς] **one**, single,

δέ, [conj δέ] **but**, rather

τὰ [def art acc neut p ὁ] the, **these**

μὲν [particle or disj part μέν] **on the one hand**

ὀπίσω [adv ὀπίσω] behind, **past**, after

ἐπιλανθάνομενος, [part pres mid/pass nom masc s ἐπιλανθάνομαι] **forgetting**

τοῖς [def art dat neut p ὁ] **things**

δὲ [conj δέ] **but**, then,

ἔμπροσθεν [adv ἔμπροσθεν] in front of, before, **forward**

ἐπεκτεινόμενος, [part pres mid/pass nom masc s ἐπιλανθάνομαι] **reaching out on**

**** My literal translation**

Brothers, I, myself do not regard to have won one thing except these, on the one hand, forgetting past things, but on the other hand reaching out on forward things .



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

* 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴ κατὰ [prep κατά] to, **toward**, to, up to,
σκοπὸν [n acc masc s σκοπός] **goal**, mark, destiny, prize
διώκω [v ind pres act 1ps διώκω] **I pursue**, I run after, I run toward
ἐπὶ [prep ἐπί] on, upon, based on, **toward**
τὸ βραβεῖον [def art+n acc neut s βραβεῖον] the prize, **the award**
τῆς [def art gen fem s ὅ] **of the**
ἄνω [adv ἄνω] **upward**, up, above
κλήσεως [n gen fem s κλήσις] **call**, invitation,
τοῦ θεοῦ [def art+n gen masc s θεός] **of the God**
ἐν [prep ἐν] in, **by**,
Χριστῷ Ἰησοῦ. [n dat masc sing Χριστός Ἰησοῦς] **Christ Jesus**

**** My literal translation**

Toward *this* goal I pursue, toward the award of the upward call of the God by Christ Jesus.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

* 15 Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;

15 Ὅσοι [adj pn nom masc 1p ὅσος] **as many as**
οὖν [conj of result οὖν] Then, so, **therefore**
τέλειοι, [adj nom masc p τέλειος] perfect, **mature**, complete
τοῦτο [pn dem acc neut s οὗτος] **this way**, this very one
φρονῶμεν· [v subj pres act 1p pl φρονέω] **should think**, hold an opinion, perspective
καὶ [conj καί] **and**, even, also
εἴ [conj εἴ] **if**, 1st class, assumed true
τι [pn ind acc neut s τίς] **anything**
ἑτέρως [adv ἑτέρως] **different**, another of a different kind
φρονεῖτε, [v ind pres act 2p pl φρονέω] **you are thinking**
καὶ [conj καί] and, even, **also**]
τοῦτο [pn dem acc neut s οὗτος] **this way**, this very one, this is the pathway
ὁ θεὸς [def art+n nom masc s θεός] **the God**
ὑμῖν [pn dat 2p pl σύ] **to you**
ἀποκαλύψει [v ind fut act 3p s ἀποκαλύπτω] will uncover, **will reveal**

** My literal translation

Therefore as many as are mature, this way [the way of God] should think, and if anything different you are thinking, also this way the God to you will reveal.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

* 16 however, let us keep living by that same *standard* to which we have attained.

16 **πλὴν** [adv **πλήν**] **however**, only, in any case, but (in conclusion)
εἰς [prep **εἰς**] into, **toward**
ὃ [pn rel acc neut s **ὅς**] this, **that** very one, **which** (that goal of God which)
ἔφθάσαμεν, [v ind aor act 1p pl **φθάνω**] we have arrived, **we have attained**
τῷ αὐτῷ [def art+pn pers dat masc s **αὐτός**] by the one, **by that**
στοιχεῖν [v inf pres act **στοιχέω**] to walk orderly, **be in harmony** (inf of progress)
(present infinitive was used to express primarily, progressive & imperfective aspects.
The action expressed by the verb harmony is to **be in a progress** of harmony)
κανόνι, [n dat masc s **κανών**] **standard**, rule of faith, set of instructions, assignment
τὸ αὐτὸ [def art+pn pers acc neut s **αὐτός**] **that very thing**, (the goal)
φρονεῖν. [v inf pres act **φρονέω**] **be thinking**, be intent on, honor, respect
(Again this is a present active infinitive of progress, **be in the progress** of thinking)

** My literal translation

However, toward that [the goal of God] **which we have attained** [aor act v, real fact believed],
by that [the goal of God] **be in** [pres active inf, be in the progress of] **harmony, that very thing** [the
goal of God] **be** [pres act inf, be in the progress of] **thinking.**

le, **However, toward that which we have attained, by that be in harmony, that very thing be thinking.**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Now from Wuest's expanded translation: v1-6

***3:1 As for the rest [of which I wish to say to you] my brethren, be constantly rejoicing in the Lord. To be writing the same things to you is not to me irksome or tedious, while for you it is safe. ² Keep a watchful eye ever upon the dogs. Keep a watchful eye ever upon the evil-workers. Keep a watchful eye ever upon those who are mutilated, doing this for the purpose of bewareing of and avoiding the same. ³ For, as for us, we are the circumcision, those who by the Spirit of God are rendering sacred service and obedience, and who are exulting in Christ Jesus, and who have not come to a settled persuasion, trusting in the flesh [human worthiness and attainment].**

⁴ Although as for myself, I [as a Jew] could be having confidence also in the flesh. If, as is the case, anyone else presumes to have come to a settled persuasion, trusting in the flesh, I could occupy that place, and with more reason; ⁵ eight days old in circumcision, my origin from Israelitish stock, belonging to the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew from true Hebrew parents [i.e., not a Hellenist], with reference to the law, a Pharisee, ⁶ with regard to zeal, persecuting the Church, with reference to that kind of righteousness which is in the law, become blameless.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Now from Wuest's expanded translation, 3:7-11:

***3:7 But whatever things were to me a gainful asset, these things I have considered a loss when it comes to my acquisition of Christ, and still so consider them. ⁸ Yes, indeed, therefore, at least, even I am still setting all things down to be a loss for the sake of that which excels all others, my knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord which I have gained through experience, for whose sake I have been caused to forfeit all things, and I am still counting them dung, in order that Christ I might gain, ⁹ yes, in order that I might in the observation of others be discovered by them to be in Him, not having as my righteousness that righteousness which is of the law, but that righteousness which is through faith in Christ, that righteousness which is from God on the basis of faith. Yes, for His sake I have been caused to forfeit all things, and I count them but dung, ¹⁰ in order that I might come to know Him in an experiential way, and to come to know experientially the power of His resurrection and a joint-participation in His sufferings, being brought to the place where my life will radiate a likeness to His death, ¹¹ if by any means I might arrive at the goal, namely, the out-resurrection from among those who are dead.**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Wuest's expanded translation continued, v12-16:

***3:12 Not that I already made acquisition or that I have now already been brought to that place of absolute spiritual maturity beyond which there is no progress, but I am pursuing onward if I may lay hold of that for which I have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus. ¹³ Brethren, as for myself, as I look back upon my life and calmly draw a conclusion, I am not counting myself yet as one who has in an absolute and complete way laid hold [of that for which I have been laid hold of by Christ Jesus]; but one thing: I, in fact, am forgetting completely the things that are behind, and am stretching forward to the things that are in front; ¹⁴ bearing down upon the goal, I am pursuing on for the prize of the call from above of God which is in Christ Jesus.**

¹⁵ As many therefore as are spiritually mature [in a relative sense], let us be constantly of this mind. And if, as is the case, in anything you are differently minded, and that, in an evil sense, this also will God reveal to you. ¹⁶ Only one thing, so far as we have come, let us keep our lives in the same path.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Observations on Philippians 3:11 Translation & interpretation

*3:11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

3:11[I am] **assuming that I may abide [factually abide] **unto the** (ek = out from, preposition prefix) **out-resurrection** [fully alive] **of** (obj gen) **the deaths**.

Assuming = adverb form of εἴ πως ei + pws, **an assumption that is possible**

Danker, πῶς [cp. prec.] enclitic adverb particle expressing an undetermined aspect **somehow, perhaps**, used in combination w. εἰ Ac 27:12; Ro 1:10; 11:14; Phil 3:11.

May abide = v subj aor act 1ps, katantaw may **factually** reach, arrive, **abide/dwell**

To is eis = into, **unto**, to

Out-resurrection is ἐξανάστασις ek+anastasis and Bauer-Danker, say **it connotes a coming to fullness of life** (this is only place used in NT)

The deaths = νεκρῶν adjective genitive masc pl from νεκρός, **the deaths** literally

There are two major views as to the meaning here of:
"the out from resurrection" of the deaths

1 This refers to us sharing His living nature, we are now new in kind, His kind. ie, he died for us, separating the death penalty from us, putting it on Him and we were crucified with Him, so that our Adamic old man with its fallen nature is now rendered no longer our slave master, present but off-line

2 This refers to assuming to be Raptured while being possibly dead or alive ie, Paul was in prison, so assumes he may be raptured out of death or life .



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Observations on Philippians 3:11 Translation & interpretation

***3:11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.**

****3:11[I am] assuming that I may abide [factually abide] unto the (ek = out from, preposition prefix) out-resurrection [fully alive] of (obj gen) the deaths.**

1 This can not refer to our Rapture

Because

a If it is the Rapture, then we may have a partial Rapture in view here, ie we are Raptured only if we allow God to use us to show Christ.

b Grammatically, this is a likely true assumption, but the Rapture is promised by God to His called out (Church) ones, who believe Christ & His work saves them

c This assumption is prefixed by some humanly experienced conditions that have to be true to get to this conclusion

d The far context, chapter 1 verse 6 refers to our Rapture as, "the day of Christ", but the close context is about the spiritual maturity of showing Christ now.

e The next context is an explanation of this view, that God's purpose is to reveal Christ now and forever.



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Observations on Philippians 3:11 Translation & interpretation

With view # 1, it is concluded then that:

- a This refers to the same resurrection in view in v10, the resurrection life of Christ we now may progressively experience in power**
- b This is the goal of phase 2 of our salvation, experientially knowing Christ living now in and through us**
- c Paul knows and teaches emphatically that we are the clay objects of God's love He uses to reveal Christ**
- d We can not experience Christ showing Himself to and thru us, if we are not:
 - 1) Experientially counting all things of human status valueless when compared to the absolutely supreme merit value of Christ's things.**
 - 2) Scripturally & experientially learning that we are God's clay fashioned instruments that are actually revealing Christ's essence**
 - 3) Joyfully experientially sharing Christ's suffering of dislike, rejection, and condemnation by this fallen world's systems, by our fallen natures, and by Satanic authorities.****
- e Sharing now His resurrection life actually began when we began to believe in Him and His full work for us.**
- f God will reward us for His works being allowed to flow to and through us until the Rapture.**



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Observations on Philippians 3:11 Translation & interpretation

One example found of those who hold view # 1:

Dr George Meisinger, of Chafer Theological Seminary,

commenting on the conclusion in Philippians 3:11 in a Bible Conference

https://austinbiblechurch.com/sites/default/files/audiofiles/www.austinbiblechurch.com/MP3s/sermons/2004/11_14/20041115_1930_George_Meisinger_ABC_Conference_001.mp3

summarized here for brevity:

Per 3:8-11, we can't fully experience this resurrection kind of life unless:

1 we count the human status for value, things of human merit, as rubbish

2 we have become acquainted with the abounding life of Christ by a knowledge of Him in the Scriptures. Not intellectually knowing Him alone, but we are now tasting of His eternal life, and He is sharing His life now, with us & through us

3 we become sharers with Christ in sufferings, which God has appointed us to share with Him per 1:29

Another is Pastor Bob Bolender of the Austin Bible Church, who teaches this in his Philippians verse by verse lessons, available on line at:

<https://austinbiblechurch.com/>



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Observations on Philippians 3:11 Translation & interpretation

The # 1 view points to our identified position in Christ, now true because we as an old man of Adam by nature died and now we as new men of His nature are raised with Him to be sharing His resurrection life. This is all now true, He is now our life.

Some passages related to the # 1 view

See 2 Cor 2:14-16 we are now an aroma of Christ

See 2 Cor 3:28 we are being conformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.. Who is doing here? God

See Eph 2:4-6 God has raised us up alive to God, seated with Christ now, this is the place we have right now

We conditionally are growing into full maturity under the teaching ministry of our Heavenly God, it is an effective ministry, it is in His power!

See 1 John 3:19 it says the new us, His seed inside us, does not sin!

Our source of death is sin out of our deposed Sinful nature,

Our source of life is Christ's righteous, life His out of death-resurrected life

So do we believe Him that it is His works, that He prepared for us to walk in, and that we are united with Him now in His new in kind nature.

If not, He will persuade us to be thinking that this is His goal for us..



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Observations on Philippians 3:11 Translation & interpretation

***3:11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.**

****3:11[I am] assuming that I may abide [factually abide] unto the (ek = out from, preposition prefix) out-resurrection [fully alive] of (obj gen) the deaths.**

View # 2 that this does refer to our Rapture

Because

a Paul is in prison and not positive he will be freed, ie may be put to death

b Paul knows he will be raptured, he does not know if he will be alive or dead

c ie., Paul says here that he may be raptured while alive or he may die and be raptured out from death, he is just not sure when he wrote this

It is concluded then that:

a This is simply a small parenthesis revealing Paul's uncertainty about being alive or dead at the Rapture.

b Though a few hold that there will be a partial Rapture of only those who have been faithful to allow God to show Christ thru them, there are many wise stewards of God's written Word who see this to be God's message to us about Paul's perspective that he may be alive or dead at the Rapture.

c This is the most logical meaning here, a simple expression of uncertainty based on uncertain circumstances



Philippians 3:12-16 The call of God in Christ Jesus #2

Observations on Philippians 3:11 Translation & interpretation

***3:11 in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.**

****3:11[I am] assuming that I may abide [factually abide] unto the (ek = out from, preposition prefix) out-resurrection [fully alive] of (obj gen) the deaths.**

View # 2 that this does refer to our Rapture

Some examples found of those holding view #2:

One positive example of this is, and there are many others...

Dr. Robert Lightner, quoted by Bob Dean in 2022-Philippians-074b.mp3 on line: "'Resurrection' (Php. 3:11) is the translation of ekanastasin, a Greek word used nowhere else in the New Testament. It means a partial resurrection out from among other corpses, literally an 'out-resurrection.' But why did Paul say he wanted somehow, to attain to the (out-) resurrection from the dead? Did he doubt he would be raised from the dead? Hardly... he was using this word to refer to the Rapture, thus expressing the hope that the Lord would return during his lifetime."

One potentially positive example of this is:

Pastor Chester McCalley in his Philippians commentary on verse 3:11:

..."What is the out resurrection? It may be that Paul is referring to the event of 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18, which is sometimes called the rapture."