

# **The Upward Call**

***Philippians 3:7-21***

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# **Philippians 3:17-21**

**Follow Paul's Example**

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**Follow The Many Enemies  
Of The Cross Of Christ**

# Many Enemies Of The Cross Of Christ

## Philippians 3:18-19

- Our appetite (gut; what feels right) is our god
- We glory in our shame
  - *When did humans first feel shame? Gen 2:25-3:10*
  - *Back then, we chose to follow our own instincts and decide for ourselves what was right versus wrong*
  - *What made us ashamed and afraid is now our glory*
- We set our minds on earthly things

# Paul's Example: Philippians 3:7-14

I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet

**BUT**

- **Forgetting** what lies behind and
- **Reaching forward** to what lies ahead,
- **Press on** toward the goal for the prize of:

**The upward Call Of God in Christ Jesus**

# **Paul's Example: The Prize: The Upward Call of God**

- **Genesis 3:9: Where are you?**
- **Luke 15:17-18: Get up and come home to Your Father**
- **Ephesians 2:6: Raised you up with Him, and seated you with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus...**

# Paul's Example:

## The Prize: The Upward Call In Christ Jesus

*Jesus is EVERYTHING (Philippians 3:7-14)*

- V7: "for the sake of CHRIST"
- V8: "the surpassing value of knowing CHRIST JESUS MY LORD,"
- V8: "so that I may gain CHRIST,"
- V9: "may be found in HIM"
- V10: "that I may know HIM"
- V10: that I may know "the power of HIS resurrection"
- V10: that I may know "the fellowship of HIS sufferings,"
- V12: "I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus."
- V14: "the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

# Paul's Example: Philippians 3:20

*Philippians 3:20 – For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.*

- **Kingdom Citizen:**
  - Trade in your old passport
  - It's a question of allegiance (“Set your minds...”)
- **Eagerly awaiting the Lord Jesus Christ to return**