

It Is Time To Move On



Philippians 3:12-14

- What a year 2020 has been!
- There were some terrible things that happened.
- There were some great things that happened.
- It was said by some Christians that the year 2020 would be a year of “Greater Vision,” or a “Greater Revealing” for the church.

○ I have listed nine things that the Holy Spirit revealed to me concerning the Church.

1. He revealed that the problem in the world is because of God’s church. We have a God problem (2 Chron. 15:1-6).
2. He revealed the failure of leadership in the church.
3. He revealed that a large part of the church (Evangelicals) had stopped trusting in the Lord (Prov. 3:5)
4. He revealed that racism is still alive and well within the church (Psalm 66:18).
5. He revealed that there are many false prophets within the church (Matt. 24:11).
6. He revealed that many Christians had become political and not disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ.
7. He revealed that He is still on the throne and He has the power to put up and to pull down (Jer. 1:10).
8. He revealed the when He sends destruction on the earth no man can stop Him (2 Chron. 7:13).
9. He revealed that we need to “Reset” as a church so that we can still be effective in the world (2 Chron. 7:14).

- In Paul’s letters, he used many illustrations from the world to communicate truth about the Christian life.
- It is important to note that Paul was not telling us how to be saved.
- All of us want to be “winning Christians” and fulfill the purposes for which we have been saved.

- What are the essentials for winning the race and one day receiving the reward that is promised?
- 1. Dissatisfaction (3:12-13a). “Not as though I had already attained!”
 - There are many Christians that are self-satisfied because they compare their “running” with that of other Christians.
 - Self-evaluation can be a dangerous thing, because we can err in two directions.
 - A. Making ourselves better than we are.
 - B. Making ourselves worse than we really are.
- 2. Devotion (3:13b). “One thing” is a phrase that is important to the Christian life.
 - The believer must devote himself to “running the Christian race.”
- 3. Direction (3:13c). The unsaved person is controlled by the past, but the Christian running the race looks toward the future.
 - The Christian believer should be “future-oriented; “forgetting those things which are behind.”
- It Does Not Mean:
 - It does not mean that we are going to wipe the past out of our memory bank.
 - It does not mean the inability to recall the positive experiences, we have had in the past.
 - It does not mean the inability to recall the negative experiences we have had in the past.
- It Does Mean:
 - It means to move past those negative influences that are controlling our lives.
 - It means to be no longer influenced by and controlled by the mistakes made, and the sins I have committed.
 - Too many Christians are shackled by regrets of the past.

4. Determination (3:14). "I press."

- **The same zeal that Paul employed when he persecuted the church, he displayed in serving Christ.**
- **There are two extremes to avoid here: (1) "I must do it all" and (2) "God must do it all."**