



Winning the Prize

How to live up to what we have already attained.

Philippians 3:12-16

Philippians 3:12-16 – ¹²Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me.

¹³Brothers, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

¹⁵All of us who are mature should take such a view of things. And if on some point you think differently, that too God will make clear to you. ¹⁶Only let us live up to what we have already attained. (New International Version)

3:12 – What had Paul not yet obtained?

What is it that Jesus had taken hold of for Paul?

What was Paul doing to take hold of what Jesus had intended for him?

How does this passage sound like it advocates salvation by works and what is it really saying?

3:13 – What is the problem with considering yourself to be completed in your salvation?

What does it mean to forget what is behind?

What is ahead that we should strain toward it?

How may we strain toward what is ahead at work?

3:14 – What goal is Paul pressing on toward?

How is a prize an appropriate analogy for eternal life?

How has Jesus called us to win the prize?

How does pressing on to what Christ has intended for us help us at work?

3:15 – Who are the mature?

How do Christians become mature?

What view should the mature have?

How might people have a different view from Paul about pressing on toward the goal?

What room did Paul leave for people to disagree with him about pressing on toward the goal?

3:16 – What is it that we have already attained?

How may we live up to what we have already attained at work?