

# Examples of Christ

Philippians 3:17-4:1



## Philippians 3:17-21

17 Brethren, join in following my example, and observe those who walk according to the pattern you have in us. 18 For many walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping, that they are enemies of the cross of Christ, 19 whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things. 20 For our citizenship is in heaven, from which also we eagerly wait for a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ; 21 who will transform the body of our humble state into conformity with the body of His glory, by the exertion of the power that He has even to subject all things to Himself.

# Recap

- Rejoice!
- Beware of False teaching centered on pride
- We are saved by grace through faith
- Our “righteousness” is forgettable
- Lay hold of Christ and be transformed by relationship

# Following Paul's Example (17)

- Watch my example! Follow me as I follow Christ
- Not external legalism but transforming relationship
- Tuned to Him we are like him—imitations of Christ
- Bad news: Call is not just for pastors!
- Good news: His grace is not just for pastors!

# The Path Away from Christ (18)

- Not as difficult as any of us would hope
- The backslidden are cause of sorrow not judgement
- Enemies of the cross of Christ—end is destruction
  - Whose god is appetite, belly, womb, inmost being
  - Whose Glory or worship is their shame
  - Who set their minds and affections on earthly things
- What earthly things have snared our focus?

# Citizens of Heaven (20)

- 1 • Our King is Christ, our country is not of this world
- What Pleases our King?
- What makes us good citizens of heaven?
- Eagerly wait...
- Eagerly anticipating the revelation of Christ!

## Slide 6

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1 citizenship, politeuma also 1x only...

in 21, word for transform is a change that is transient until a permanent change comes... it is referring to our change here on earth, in the power of the Holy Spirit, until heaven's final transformation...

*Rich Catapano, 3/1/2022*

1 it appears only 5 times in scripture and 3 of those 5 it is translated as a disguise! This is a transformation in which we put on Christ, his righteousness, his image, his goodness, remain his and anything good, worthy, or worthy of imitation is His!

*Anthony Catapano, 3/1/2022*

# Christ can make us like Him

- Transform the body *metaschematizo* disguise, mask
- Change that is transient until permanence is gained
- *Adam's likeness now efface, stamp thy image in its place*
- Through relationship, our image reflects His own
- Heroes, goodness, kindness, godliness—reflect Christ!
- What you see in me that is worthy is really Christ!
- His work, His image, His example on display (17!)



## Philippians 4:1

Therefore, my beloved brethren whom I long to see, my joy and crown, in this way stand firm in the Lord, my beloved.

# For us Today

- Following Christ is about His work in us
- His work is what must be on display not our goodness
- That which will keep us from Him and make us enemies of the cross of Christ must be laid at his feet
- Standing firm in our own strength is a waste of time
- Only Standing firm our relationship to Him can save