



# Living with Heaven in View

Philippians 3:12 - 4:1

*Four practical directions for living with Heaven in view*

Heaven In View



# Philippians 3:12 - 4:1

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

<sup>13</sup> Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

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

<sup>15</sup> Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you.



# Philippians 3:12 - 4:1

<sup>16</sup> Only let us hold true to what we have attained.

<sup>17</sup> Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us.

<sup>18</sup> For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ.

<sup>19</sup> Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.

<sup>20</sup> But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,



# Philippians 3:12 - 4:1

<sup>21</sup> who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

4:1 Therefore, my brothers, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm thus in the Lord, my beloved.



1. Heaven is not yet our front yard view, but it must be our frontward focus. (v. 12-14)

- A. Stop letting the lack of perfection, or even perfect competency, keep you out of the game.
- B. **GET THIS: Faithfulness doesn't mean flawlessness;** it means being available and willing to let God use you whenever and wherever He wants despite what abilities you think you have or don't have.
- C. Keep your eyes on the prize. In other words, turn your eyes upon Jesus and His Heavenly guarantee and go where the "wind" takes you.



## 2. The upward calling of Heaven keeps us lowly and grounded. (v. 15-16)

- A. Mature believers recognize their absolute dependence on God and their inability to do good apart from Him.
- B. If we think too highly of ourselves, at some point God will lovingly reground us.
- C. Don't go backwards. Keep moving forward as you look forward to Heaven.



### **3. Be a friend of the cross and seek first Jesus and His kingdom. (v. 18-19)**

- A. Set your eyes on Jesus and seek Him above all else.**
- B. Set your eyes on other faithful believers and be encouraged by them.**
- C. Focus on the gospel of Jesus and make His glory your goal.**



**4. Beloved, be patient and stand firm in your faith, for Jesus is coming to bring you Home. (v. 20 - 4:1)**

**A. We are participants of this world but true citizens of Heaven.**

**B. Do not conform to the foreign land of this world or but be transformed into the likeness of Jesus.**

**C. Jesus is coming! So, get ready, stand firm, and step out faithfully!**