



I Want To Know Christ: The Mindset of the Apostle Paul – Part 2

Text: Philippians 3:10-4:1

Erik Luchetta – November 6, 2017

The apostle Paul teaches that if we adopt his mindset, it will help to keep us safe (Philippians 3:1) and enable us to stand firm in the Lord (Philippians 4:1).

The apostle Paul uses an athletic metaphor to explain that knowing Jesus is a gradual, life-long process.

The 4 ways Paul wants to know Jesus:

1. The power of His resurrection
2. Participation in His sufferings
3. Being conformed to His death
4. Attaining the resurrection from the dead.

The apostle Paul stresses that he has “not already experienced perfection”. He knows that there is more growth and change that God will do in him. He is warning against any tendency to have a super-spiritual view of Christianity which thinks that the full transformation into Christ likeness can be had now in the present. That time is reserved for the resurrection.

The apostle Paul knows that he will make mistakes and sin, but he quickly puts his shortcomings aside and continues to focus on Jesus. He “forgets what is behind and strains toward what is ahead.” (Philippians 4:13)

He encourages the church in Philippi to adopt his mindset in knowing Jesus more and more (Philippians 3:17).

The apostle Paul reminds the church that their citizenship comes from heaven. This means that, as citizens of heaven, they are called to reflect heaven into the earth. They are to bring heaven’s culture, values, and way of life into the earth.

