

CHRIST'S PERFECTION IN THE BELIEVER

Introduction: The key thought of this chapter is Christ's perfection in the believer. The "mark" (or goal) of the believer is the perfection of Jesus Christ in his own life. This goal cannot be fully reached until "the high calling of God in Christ Jesus," which is also known as the resurrection of the believers (3:14). This perfection is only possible by personally knowing Jesus Christ in His resurrection, in His sufferings, and in His death (3:10).

Lesson Aim: Challenge each believer to strive to be perfect in Christ Jesus.

Verse: "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus" (3:14).

Outline of the Lesson and Questions to Answer:**I. The Believer's Choice — 3:1-11**

1. What is the source of the believer's joy? 3:1, 3
2. Who were the dogs, evil workers and concision that the believers were to beware of? 3:2
Circle your answer: Roman soldiers; religious Gentiles; Jewish zealots; idol worshippers
- 3 Give three truths about true circumcision of the heart. 3:3
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
4. What did Paul find far better than his elite rank in the Jewish religion? 3:8
5. Name two types of righteousness Paul experienced. 3:9
6. What did Paul want to achieve before he was judged by Christ? 3:10-11; 2 Cor 5:10
 - a.
 - b.
 - c.
 - d.

II. The Believer's Challenge — 3:12-16

7. How should a believer treat his past accomplishments? 3:13
8. How should a believer live his life? 3:13-14
9. How did Paul try to heal the division that was in the church at Philippi? 3:16

III. The Believer's Change — 3:17-21

10. Where is the believer's citizenship (conversation in KJV)? 3:20
11. What should the believer always keep in mind? 3:20
12. What will our new body be like? 3:21
13. How will Christ make a believer perfect? 3:21