

Hope of the Future

Description

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Philippians 3:12-21

Paul has a pretty despicable past, he was well known for murdering Christians before becoming one himself. It would be easy to allow those choices to haunt him. To replay them over and over again, but here in Philippians 3, we find him choosing instead to look forward.

He's not denying his past, in fact he speaks of it throughout his letters, but he is choosing not to allow his past to define his future. He instead is "straining toward what is ahead" (v. 13). He acknowledges how much work there is still to do, but chooses to keep moving forward.

Our past can often become a hold up for us in our faith journey. We replay the mistakes of our past over and over again in our mind. Our hearts often fill with paralyzing shame, but Philippians 3 reminds us to press on.

We have new life, and are able to move forward in the hope that Jesus brings. This isn't a denial of our past, rather, it is a call to live in hope of the future.

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