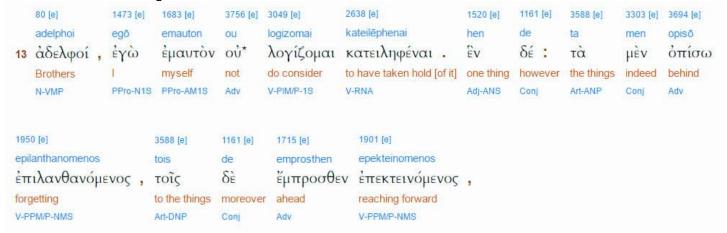
Philippians 3:12-17

Philippians 3:12 – "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.

	3756 [e]	3754 [e]	2235 [e]	2983 [e]		2228 [e]	2235 [e]	5048 [e]	1377 [e]	1161 [e]	1487 [e]	2532 [e]	2638 [e]	190	09 [e]
	ouch	hoti	ēdē	elabon		ē	ēdē	teteleiōmai	diōkō	de	ei	kai	katalabō	ер	h'
12	ούχ	őτι	ήδη	ι έλαβον,		iγ	ήδη	τετελείωμαι ;	διώκω	δè,	εi	καὶ	καταλάβω	, Èq	o'
	Not	that	already	I have obtain	ned [it]	or	already	have been perfected	I am pursuing	however	whether	also	I might lay hold	of	
	Adv	Conj	Adv	V-AIA-1S		Conj	Adv	V-RIM/P-1S	V-PIA-1S	Conj	Conj	Conj	V-ASA-1S	Pre	ер
3739	9 [e]	2532 [e]	2638 [e]		5259 [e]	5547 [el	2424 [e]							
hō	50472	kai	katelēmp	hthēn	hypo	Christ	11	lēsou							
မို		καὶ	κατελί	μφθην ,	ύπὸ	Хри	στοῦ	Ίησοῦ .							
that	which	also	I was laid	laid hold of by		Christ	t	lesus							
RelF	Pro-DNS	Conj	V-AIP-1S		Prep	N-GMS	3	N-GMS							

- The analogy that Paul has been using and the terms he has used to express himself have been from the world of accounting.
- Paul now moves into the world of athletics, competition, self-discipline, running and winning.
- It appears Paul is making a clear point that he (nor anyone else) has obtained perfection. This would be some kind of holiness doctrine that taught that perfection could be attained. This could include full eschatological benefits that could lead into a dominion-like theology. See 1 Corinthians 4:8-13, which is written to a church just south of Philippi.
- Paul (and, others) can press on towards the goal, but they will not achieve the goal in this life.
- The best Paul could do was come closer to fulfilling the purpose Christ Jesus took hold of him.

Philippians 3:13 – "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,



- Paul again stresses not only the fact he has not obtained perfection, but he does not consider himself to have even fully accomplished what Jesus Christ called him to accomplish.
- At times Paul does realize he had completed a portion of his ministry, but this just meant there was the next phase. See Romans 15:19-24

Philippians 3:14 – "I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

2596 [e]	4649 [e]	1377 [e]	1519 [e]	3588 [e]	1017 [e]	3588 [e]	507 [e]	2821 [e]	3588 [e]	2316 [e]	1722 [e]	5547 [e]	2424 [e]
kata	skopon	diōkō	eis	to	brabeion	tēs	anō	klēseās	tou	Theou	en	Christō	lēsou
κατὰ	σκοπὸν	διώκω	εiς	τò	βραβεῖον ,	τῆς	ἄνω	κλήσεως	τοῦ	Θεοῦ,	ėv	Χριστῷ	Ίησοῦ .
toward	[the] goal	press on	for	the	prize	of the	upward	calling	8	of God	in	Christ	Jesus
Prep	N-AMS	V-PIA-1S	Prep	Art-ANS	N-ANS	Art-GFS	Adv	N-GFS	Art-GMS	N-GMS	Prep	N-DMS	N-DMS

- Key word: skopos translated "goal". It is only used here in the NT.
 - The word skopos comes from the word skopein which means "look". The reason for the connection in the Greek language is that the runner "looked" (skopein) at the finish post which became identified as the skopos, or the place the running was looking.
- Reaching the *skopos* results in receiving the "prize" (*brabeion*)
 - This same word *brabeion* or "prize" is used in 1 Corinthians 9:24 "all the runners run, but only one gets the prize."
 - o 1 Cor. 9:25-27 provides more details concerning rules and awards
 - More details describing the winners can be found in 2 Timothy 4:8
- At the Greek games the dignitary officiating or presiding over the games would award the prize.
 Sometimes the emperor would be that official. Jesus Christ is the one officiating over the "Christian Games" we are participating in today. At the end of the games Jesus will be the one awarding the prizes to the winners. So, again, the games are not over, the goal has not been reached and no one is perfect. That is yet future and Jesus will present the awards.
- The phrase "for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus is literally, "the upward calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Philippians 3:15 – "Let those of us who are mature think this way, and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal that also to you."



- "mature" is from teleioi which could also be translated "perfect", but the context is speaking of maturity
 - o Paul is reclaiming the word "perfect" (or, teleioi) and giving it the proper definition.
 - o Paul says those who claim to be "perfect" should be thinking the way Paul has just described.
 - o Here Paul identifies with the "mature" (teleioi) just like he did with the "strong" in Romans 15.
 - Christ-centered life as Paul described it was maturity
- But, such a mature view is not easily attained. Some will not be able to understand or to appreciate the Christ-centered life.
 - o These are the non-perfect or the non-mature.
 - They are not rebuked by Paul, but encouraged to continue their pursuit of Truth and God will reveal it to them in time.
 - There is the danger of those who do not understand to:
 - One, find a short cut to what could pass as maturity or perfection.
 - Legalism
 - Christian-like lingo or behavior or hangouts, etc.

- Two, become critical in their ignorance of Paul and mature believers who are the strong living in freedom and pursuing Christ and not religion or church activities.
- "That too" is kai touto which could mean that beside the supposed divine revelation and voices of the
 Holy Spirit they have heard (Paul being sarcastic; referring to things like 2 Corinthians 12:1), God will
 also reveal to them the basic Christian principles he has already revealed to the apostles, church
 leaders and through his Word.
 - Or, Paul is saying with sincerity that God will continue to be faithful to those who pursue Truth to reveal the same plan of action and course of life.

Philippians 3:16 – "Only let us hold true to what we have attained."

	4133 [e]	1519 [e]	3739 [e]	5348 [e]	3588 [e]	846 [e]	4748 [e]	2583 [e]	3588 [e]	846 [e]	5426 [e]
	plēn	eis	ho	ephthasamen	tō	autō	stoichein	kanoni	to	auto	phronein
16	πλην	είς	ô	έφθάσαμεν,	τῷ	αὐτῷ	στοιχείν .	{κανόνι	ι τὸ	αὐτὸ	φρονεῖνλ
	Nevertheless	to	that which	we have attained	by the	same	to walk	rule	the	same	mind
	Conj	Prep	RelPro-ANS	V-AIA-1P	Art-DNS	PPro-DM3S	V-PNA	N-DMS	Art-ANS	Adj-ANS	V-PNA

- Note: there is no word for "rule" which appears in some translations. (It is NOT placed into the RSV, ESV or NIV). The addition in some translations is to clarify by gaining support from Galatians 6:16 where "rule" is translated from "kanon
- Stoichein or "to walk" or "hold true to" was originally a military term which meant "to be in a rank, or series".
 - This would be yet another call for unity.
 - The military family histories of Philippi would have recognized this word and its meaning.
 - This is direction to obtain the correct mind-set/position and translate that mind-set/position into action/performance.

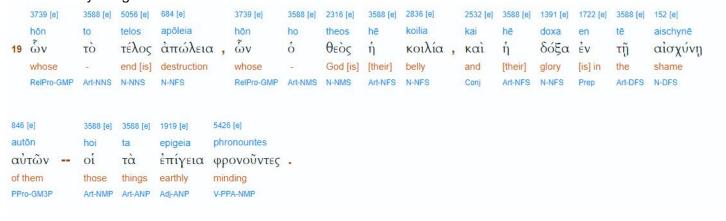
Philippians 3:17 – "Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us."

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4831 [e]
                    1473 [e]
                             1096 [e]
                                          80 [e]
                                                        2532 [e] 4648 [e]
                                                                            3588 [e] 3779 [e]
                                                                                            4043 [e]
                                                                                                                  2531 [e]
                                                                                                                            2192 [e]
                                                                                                                                         5179 [e]
   Symmimētai
                             ginesthe
                                          adelphoi
                                                                                   houtō
                                                                                            peripatountas
                                                                                                                  kathōs
                                                                                                                            echete
                                                               skopeite
                                                                            tous
                                                                                                                                         typon
17 Συμμιμηταί*
                    μου
                             γίνεσθε,
                                          άδελφοί,
                                                       καὶ
                                                               σκοπείτε τοὺς οὕτω* περιπατοῦντας, καθώς ἔχετε
                                                                                                                                         τύπον
   Imitators together of me
                            be
                                          brothers
                                                        and
                                                               consider
                                                                            those thus
                                                                                            walking
                                                                                                                  as
                                                                                                                            you have [for] a pattern
   N-NMP
                    PPro-G1S V-PMM/P-2P
                                          N-VMP
                                                        Conj
                                                               V-PMA-2P
                                                                            Art-AMP Adv
                                                                                            V-PPA-AMP
                                                                                                                  Adv
                                                                                                                            V-PIA-2P
                                                                                                                                         N-AMS
1473 [e]
hēmas
ήμᾶς .
PPro-A1P
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Philippians 3:18 – "For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ.



Philippians 3:19 – "Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.



Philippians 3:20 - "But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,"

1473 [e] hēmōn 20 ἡμῶν of us PPro-G1F	indeed	to τὸ	4175 [e] politeuma πολίτευμα citizenship N-NNS	en	3772 [e] ouranois οὐρανοῖς [the] heavens N-DMP	5225 [e] hyparchei $\dot{\nu}\pi\dot{\alpha}\rho\chi\epsilon_{\rm I}$, exists V-PIA-3S	1537 [e] ex £ from Prep	3739 [e] hou ov whence RelPro-GMS	2532 [e] kai καὶ , also Conj	4990 [e] Sōtēra $\Sigma \omega \tau \tilde{\eta} \rho \alpha \ ,$ a Savior N-AMS	553 [e] apekdechometha $απεκδεχόμεθα$ we are awaiting V-PIMP-1P	2962 [e] Kyrion Kúptov [the] Lord N-AMS
lēsoun 'Ιησοῦν Jesus	5547 [e] Christon Χριστό Christ N-AMS	ν,										