

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes or October 5-6, 2002

Dale Whitehead

"Pursuing the Prize"

Philippians 3:12-16

The first essential in giving professing believers the continuing assurance of ultimate success in achieving the goal of the resurrection is dissatisfaction.

The second essential in giving professing believers the assurance of ultimate success in achieving the goal of the resurrection is a focused direction.

We not only need to be careful that urgent matters in the present do not distract us from a focused direction but we must be careful that things from our past do not distract us as well.

We cannot allow our past sin to distract us from our focused direction (1 Corinthians 15:9-10).

We cannot allow our past spiritual credentials and accomplishments to distract us from our focused direction (Philippians 3:4-7).

The third essential in giving professing believers the assurance of ultimate success in achieving the goal of the resurrection is discipline.

The "perfect" (TELEIOI) in Philippians 3:15 refers to those who have come to see themselves over time as mature, or in other words as spiritually healthy.

Those who make the claim that they are spiritually healthy or mature need to possess a similar dissatisfaction and focused direction as Paul.

The word "living" (STOICHEO) literally means "following in line" and was originally a military term meaning "to stand in line" or "to march in line."

The "standard" to which the Philippians had been marching was the instruction that Paul had given them over the course of their relationship.