

“I Press On...”



*Philippians 3:12-14*

## Philippians 3:12-14 (NKJV)

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me. <sup>13</sup> Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do*, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

## Philippians 3:12-14 (ASV)

<sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained, or am already made perfect: but I press on, if so be that I may lay hold on that for which also I was laid hold on by Christ Jesus. <sup>13</sup> Brethren, I count not myself yet to have laid hold: but one thing *I do*, forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, <sup>14</sup> I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

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# “I Press On Toward The Goal...”

- My attaining or perfection is not yet present
  - *“Not that I have already obtained...”*
  - *“I count not myself yet to have laid hold...”*
  - **Romans 13:11** Salvation nearer than when first believed
  - **Romans 8:24-25** We are saved in hope →  
Look to future
  - **Hebrews 11:1** Hope is necessary for faith (**2 Cor. 5:7**)

# “I Press On Toward The Goal...”

- My effort is to “press on” and “lay hold”
  - “*But I press on, if so be that I may lay hold*”
  - “*Forgetting the things which are behind, and stretching forward to the things which are before, I press on...*”
  - “Press on” = **dioko** – pursue, follow after, by implication, persecute (used 44 times in NT)
    - 31 times translated by “persecute” in KJV (**Mt. 5:11**)
  - Context making play on words (cf. **Acts 22:4f**)
  - **1 Thess. 5:14-15** Pursue good (**Rom. 12:13**)
  - **2 Tim. 2:15** Be diligent to present approved

# “I Press On Toward The Goal...”

- My sights are set on goal or prize ahead
  - *“I press on toward the goal unto the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus”*
  - *Hebrews 12:1-2* Run race looking to Jesus
  - *Heb. 10:35-36* With confidence & endurance
  - *1 Corinthians 9:24* Run to win!

**Am I truly pressing on to goal with the same fervor, zeal & intensity Paul had?**