

*“Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus. Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, **I Press Toward The Mark For The Prize** of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.” **Philippians 3:12-14 KJV***



The runner is not concerned with what lies behind them on the course, but with what lies ahead. Satan will use your past to hinder your ability to run your race. *“Be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage. Lay aside every weight, and the*

*sin which doth so easily beset us, and let us run with patience the race that is set before us. No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life; that he may please him who hath chosen him to be a soldier.”* Sin weakens and destroys our ability in Christ for it is the very essence of unbelief; denying the Truth of God’s Word through disobedience. The runner must stay focused to win. They cannot chat and banter or stray from their appointed course. You can’t win by taking a shortcut across the infield. There are no shortcuts in faith. *“Many will say to me in that day, ‘Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in Thy Name? And in Thy Name have cast out devils? And in Thy Name done many wonderful works?’ And then will I profess unto them, ‘I never knew you: depart from Me, ye that work iniquity.’”* Many think they can achieve Eternal Life their own way, but will find themselves doomed forever, because they thought they could do better than Jesus has already done! Believers often strut about condemning others they think to be less faithful or more sinful, forgetting their own faults in the pathos of their own pride! *“And why beholdest thou the mote that is in thy brother’s eye, but perceivest not the beam that is in thine own eye? Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted. In lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.”* Are you “proud” of your spirituality? Then you are far from spiritual! The apostle Paul wrote, *“Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.”* When you see yourself as a greater sinner, you can then with humility and love reach for those who are falling. *“I am made all things to all men, that I might by all means save some. Keep yourselves in the Love of God, looking for the Mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto Eternal Life. And of some have compassion, making a difference.”* Are you pressing towards the Mark?

Forsaking all the temporal strife,  
For Prize Divine, Eternal Life,  
To run our race to Finish Line,  
And find ourselves in Grace Divine! –CGP

Dear Believer, we have not yet arrived, but we will if we stay our course and remember;

*“For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. Do all things without murmurings and disputings:” **Philippians 2:13-14 KJV***