



RCC Phoenix – 5.30.21 – Philippians (Week 13)

Philippians 3:15-21, 4:1 NLT

“Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. But we must hold on to the progress we have already made. Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior. He will take our weak mortal bodies and change them into glorious bodies like his own, using the same power with which he will bring everything under his control. CH4: Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stay true to the Lord. I love you and long to see you, dear friends, for you are my joy and the crown I receive for my work.”

1. Believers Can _____

Philippians 3:15-16 NLT

“Let all who are spiritually mature agree on these things. If you disagree on some point, I believe God will make it plain to you. But we must hold on to the progress we have already made.”

There are 2 main categories of Issues we will face as believers in Christ.

A. _____ Issues

Galatians 1:6-10 ESV

“I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel— not that there is another one, but there are some who trouble you and want to distort the gospel of Christ. But even if we or an angel from heaven should preach to you a gospel contrary to the one we preached to you, let him be accursed. As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed. For am I now seeking the approval of man, or of God? Or am I trying to please man? If I were still trying to please man, I would not be a servant of Christ.”

Paul is warning the church in Philippi of people who _____ the Gospel and change the message of Jesus.

In an effort to combat corruption of the Gospel, early believers in Jesus developed a _____ to summarize the apostles’ teachings and their beliefs.

The Apostles Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

Note - the word "catholic" here does not refer to the Catholic Church but is a term used for the universal Church, encompassing all believers.

These primary issues are the _____ - _____ and the foundation of our Christian faith.

Any teaching, whether it comes from a self-professed "Christian" or not, that _____ from these core principles is what Paul describes as "another gospel."

Primary Issues are _____ Issues.

We must know _____ and be confident in what we believe so we do not fall prey to a counterfeit gospel.

B. _____ Issues

These issues are ones that do not impact the _____ of our faith.

Some secondary issues include:

- Pre/Mid/Post Tribulation Rapture
- Drinking Alcohol (not drunkenness)
- Age of the Earth
- A global or regional flood for Noah
- The Sabbath is Saturday / Sunday

We should _____ for fellow believers who may believe differently than us on secondary issues.

Our position on all issues should be as based on _____ without allowing smaller issues cause division in us a believers.

The dividing line of _____ are primary issues not secondary beliefs.

Romans 14:13-19 NLT

"So let's stop condemning each other. Decide instead to live in such a way that you will not cause another believer to stumble and fall. I know and am convinced on the authority of the Lord Jesus that no food, in and of itself, is wrong to eat. But if someone believes it is wrong, then for that person it is wrong. And if another believer is distressed by what you eat, you are not acting in love if you eat it. Don't let your eating ruin someone for whom Christ died. Then you will not be criticized for doing

something you believe is good. For the Kingdom of God is not a matter of what we eat or drink, but of living a life of goodness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit. If you serve Christ with this attitude, you will please God, and others will approve of you, too. So then, let us aim for harmony in the church and try to build each other up.”

2. _____ Spiritual Leaders

Philippians 3:17-20 NLT

“Dear brothers and sisters, pattern your lives after mine, and learn from those who follow our example. For I have told you often before, and I say it again with tears in my eyes, that there are many whose conduct shows they are really enemies of the cross of Christ. They are headed for destruction. Their god is their appetite, they brag about shameful things, and they think only about this life here on earth. But we are citizens of heaven, where the Lord Jesus Christ lives. And we are eagerly waiting for him to return as our Savior.”

Paul says follow the apostles _____, not use them as a _____ for Jesus.

1 Timothy 2:5-6 NLT

“For, there is one God and one Mediator who can reconcile God and humanity—the man Christ Jesus. He gave his life to purchase freedom for everyone.”

Paul gives criteria for following a Christian, Spiritual leader.

- Does their conduct align with Scripture?
- Are they headed for destruction?
- Do they always submit to their fleshly appetite?
- Do they brag about shameful things?
- Do they only think about earthly things?
- Are they acting a citizen of heaven?

Can we question the leader about these things?

Leaders who can't be _____ wind up doing questionable things.

We should be very _____ about following the example of any Spiritual leader who is not meeting these criteria.

3. Stay _____ to the Lord

Philippians 4:1 NLT

“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stay true to the Lord. I love you and long to see you, dear friends, for you are my joy and the crown I receive for my work.”

Definition of “Steko”:

Persevere; _____; keep one's standing.

Reflection Question:

Do my actions and decisions reveal that I am true to Jesus?