

¹⁷Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ.

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

—Philippians 3:17-19 ESV

Remember This World is Not Your Home

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²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹who will transform our lowly body to be like His glorious body, by the power that enables Him even to subject all things to Himself.

—Philippians 3:20-21 ESV

"Here was a picture the Philippians could understand. Philippi was a Roman colony. Here and there at strategic military centres, the Romans set down their colonies. In such places the citizens were mostly soldiers who had served their time—twenty-one years—and who had been rewarded with full citizenship.

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The great characteristic of these colonies was that, wherever they were, they remained fragments of Rome. Roman dress was worn; Roman magistrates governed; the Latin tongue was spoken; Roman justice was administered; Roman morals were observed.

Even in the ends of the earth they remained unshakably Roman.
Paul says to the Philippians, Just as the Roman colonists never forget that they belong to Rome, you must never forget that you are citizens of heaven; and your conduct must match your citizenship."

—William Barclay

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¹Truly God is good to Israel, to those who are pure in heart. ²But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled, my steps had nearly slipped. ³For I was envious of the arrogant when I saw the prosperity of the wicked... ⁹They set their mouths against the heavens, and their tongue struts through the earth...

II And they say, "How can God know? Is there knowledge in the Most High?" ¹²Behold, these are the wicked; always at ease, they increase in riches. ¹³All in vain have I kept my heart clean and washed my hands in innocence. ¹⁴For all the day long I have been stricken and rebuked every morning...

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¹⁶But when I thought how to understand this, it seemed to me a wearisome task... ²⁵Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. ²⁶My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

—Psalm 73:1-3, 9, 11-14, 16, 25-26 ESV

Live in the Future Tense

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¹⁸For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

²³And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies... ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

-Romans 8:18-19, 23, 25 ESV

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... ⁷so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

—I Corinthians 1:7-8 ESV

For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. —Galatians 5:5 ESV

... waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ.

—Titus 2:13 ESV

...so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for Him.—Hebrews 9:28 ESV

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... keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life.

—Jude 1:21 ESV

10 For he was looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God...
 24 By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,
 25 choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

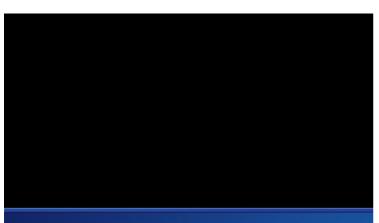
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²⁶He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. ²⁷By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

—Hebrews 11:10, 24-27 ESV

"This life is temporary—Heaven is forever. Keep that reality right in front of you." —James MacDonald

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Fix Your Hope on Transformation, not Reformation

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Things you can pray for us:

- To hold fast to God and His understanding
- To have peace with God's timing
- For physical comfort for David
- To glorify God in all things
- To love each other unconditionally
- For protection from the evil one who wants to destroy

... that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and may share His sufferings, becoming like Him in His death.

—Philippians 3:10 ESV

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