

Wait
and
See...

- Phil 3:17 Join together in following my example, brothers and sisters, and just as you have us as a model, keep your eyes on those who live as we do. ¹⁸ For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. ¹⁹ Their destiny is destruction, their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things. ²⁰ But our citizenship is in heaven. And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.
NIV

Wait
and
See...

1. What are you focused on?

*Wait
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2. Don't focus on the negative

- What you can't have
- Who you don't look like
- The current cultural icon
 - Enemy of the cross
 - Destined for destruction
 - Their god is their stomach (appetites)
 - Their glory is their shame
 - They are focused on earthly things
 -

*Wait
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3. Focus on Glory

- What is to come
- Someday you will be there
- Someday God will bring it
- What you have been promised
- It's called "Hope."
-

*Wait
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3. Focus on Glory

- A. Citizenship is in heaven
 - This is where you belong
 - This is where you fit
 - These are your peeps
- B. We wait for Jesus-
 - The second coming of Jesus is an important Christian doctrine; not talked too much anymore
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*Wait
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3. Focus on Glory

- C. Jesus is powerful enough to change our lowly, broken body into a glorious body
 - 2 Cor 11: ²³ Are they servants of Christ?...I am more. I have worked much harder, been in prison more frequently, been flogged more severely, and been exposed to death again and again. ²⁴ Five times I received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. ²⁵ Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was pelted with stones, three times I was shipwrecked, I spent a night and a day in the open sea, ²⁶ I have been constantly on the move.

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3. Focus on Glory

- C. Jesus is powerful enough to change our lowly, broken body into a glorious body
 - I have been in danger from rivers, in danger from bandits, in danger from my fellow Jews, in danger from Gentiles; in danger in the city, in danger in the country, in danger at sea; and in danger from false believers. ²⁷ I have labored and toiled and have often gone without sleep; I have known hunger and thirst and have often gone without food; I have been cold and naked.

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3. Focus on Glory

- C. Jesus is powerful enough to change our lowly, broken body into a glorious body
- Following Jesus had taken a toll on Paul's body
- He hurt; physically, emotionally, mentally
- But someday...
 - ...we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who...will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

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3. Focus on Glory

- Rev 21:4 ‘He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death’ or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.”
- ⁵ He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”
- ⁶To the thirsty I will give water without cost from the spring of the water of life.

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3. Focus on Glory

- Transformed bodies
- No tears
- No death
- No mourning
- No crying
- No pain
- Everything new
- No thirst
- We have decrepit bodies
- We have sorrow/ depression
- We cease to live
- We hurt from our losses
- We ache so we cry
- We have body & people pain
- We have potholes, leaky roofs
- We need constant replenishment

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But... there's a hitch!

- What drives me nuts...
 - “Oh, he/she has gone to a better place now”
 - Unbeliever!
- American “religion”
 - Christian world view
 - Belief in one, good “benevolent” God
 - Belief in a loving God
 - Reasoning “If God is loving, he must save everyone”
 - It's Christianity, without the Christ!

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But... there's a hitch!

- What drives me nuts...
 - Such a belief negates the death of “God’s only begotten Son.”
 - John 3:16 “For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life.
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But... there's a hitch!

And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control, will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

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So what?

- Hope is a central teaching of the Christian faith
- Hope that tomorrow will be better
- Hope that the next life can be better
- It is not an empty hope
 - Eternity is good because of Jesus
 - Tomorrow will be good because God is good and he already knows what is going to happen

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So what?

- Do you live like you have hope?
- Or do you live like horror awaits around the corner?
- Do you look forward to eternity with God?
- Or do you dread death?

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3.

*Wait
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