

THE 2023 MIRROR OF OUR LIFE

Philippians 3:7-14

Introduction:

1. The mirror of our life is reflected in our attitude.
2. Here is evangelist Bob Harrington's changed life and mirror story.
3. The mirror usually reveals the truth, and the following Scripture text surely does.

I. (vv. 7-12) OUR CONSECRATION.

1. (vv. 7-8) Unload the unholy.
 - A. There are things that pull us away from the holy.
 - B. Paul was a scholar and religious leader both of which took him away from Christ initially.
 - C. It was the missionary Jim Elliott who said, "He is no fool who gives up what he cannot keep to gain what he cannot lose."
 - D. Paul had to forget the hurts & failures of his past and his religion.
2. (v. 9) Enshrine the holy.
 - A. You can't enshrine the Holy One with your hands, head, and heart full of worldly, material things.
 - B. We can't load a full wagon, so, after we empty ourselves, we must allow God to fill us.
 - C. We must exchange our righteousness for His pure righteousness.
3. (vv. 10-12) Enshrine the Holy One.
 - A. (v. 10) We must know Him.
 - B. (v. 11) We must be resurrected in Him.
 - C. (v. 12) We must be sanctified in Him.

II. (v. 13c) OUR CANCELLATION – *Forgetting those things which are behind.*

1. Forgetting does not mean to totally remove everything from our memory, but to learn from things and move forward.
2. There are some things we need to turn loose.
 - A. Disappointments – Don't get hung-up on this.
 - B. Divorce – Don't get hung-up on this.
 - C. Death – Deal with it respectfully by honoring the deceased and move forward in life.
 - D. We, as Christians, are to help folks over these hurdles.

III. (vv. 13-14) OUR CONTINUATION.

1. (v. 13ab) We need a humble openness with God.
2. (v. 13d) We need a humble readiness for God.
3. (v. 14) We need a humble mindset to be on target with God.

IV. (v. 14) OUR CONSUMMATION.

1. God has prizes in heaven for us for all eternity.
2. In heaven, we are in His likeness, presence, and blessings forevermore.
3. Revelation 2:10 – ***Be faithful unto death, and I will give you a crown of life.***

Conclusion:

Our 2023 mirror is composed of daily choices for or against God and His will.