

**Intellectual Ecstasy**  
**Pressing Forward**  
**Philippians 3:13-21**

Verses 9-12

Paul knew that He needed to be clothed with Christ's righteousness. He had not yet captured all there was in Christ but He had been taken hold of by Christ.

Verse 13

Count (logizomai) think of the word logic. I haven't arrived yet. Forgetting those things which are behind. This is another exercising of the mind.

This may be the single greatest thing which keeps us from having intellectual ecstasy. Not being able to forget.

1. Remember my sin.
  - a. As Paul took us through his credentials of righteousness it must have brought a tear to his eyes.
  - b. Those credentials included the murder of many in the Church.
  - c. Can you imagine the heavy burden Paul carried around?
2. Remember the wrongs done to me.
3. Live in the past.

Too many Fathers live in the past.

Verse 14

Press – Pursue

Mark – Goal

Prize = high calling of God in Christ Jesus

#7 – Intellectual Ecstasy – Christ over everything

#8 – Intellectual Ecstasy – Pressing Forward

1. Forget and leave the things that are behind.
2. Pursue what is before you.
3. What is your goal?

Verses 15 – 16

Word "Mind" used three times in these two verses:

Phroneo – controlling sentiment and opinion.

1. We have already attained, grasped, this thing: Christ is the one we follow.
2. Walk by the same rule.
3. Mind the same thing.

a. We have a solitary standard, boundary or sphere that we live in.

b. We are single minded in mission – Follow Christ

Verses 17 – 21

Fathers be the example of Christ for your children to follow.

Two examples of earthly things.

1. Earthly Religion
  - a. Verse 2 Beware those whose faith is in their flesh and not in the Spirit.
  - b. Any teaching where the cross is not the primary focus to our favor with God.
  - c. Their glory is also their shame.
    - i. What brings glory now will bring shame before Christ.
    - ii. Chapter 2 "Every knee will bow before Christ."
    - iii. We will feel disgrace for anything else that we follow.
2. Earthly Living
  - a. One who says they believe but don't follow.
  - b. Our conversation is in heaven.
    - i. Conversation – way of living as a resident. 1: 27
    - ii. We should live like we are already Heaven's residents, not just on our way there.
  - c. He will change our evil, despicable body like (as) His glorious body, by working (energia) to subdue all things to Himself.
    - i. Christ wants everything in our life to be submitted to Christ.
    - ii. When a follower of Christ isn't following in submission they make themselves shameful by giving in to worldliness.

So what do we do?

Forget the past and press on toward the prize.