The Best is Yet to Come!

**Reading – Philippians 3:2-14**

 ***[Matthew 19:1-10] Now it came to pass, when Jesus had finished these sayings, that He departed from Galilee and came to the region of Judea beyond the Jordan.  [2] And great multitudes followed Him, and He healed them there. [3] The Pharisees also came to Him, testing Him, and saying to Him, “Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife for just any reason?” [4] And He answered and said to them, “Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning ‘made them male and female, [5] and said, ‘For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh’? [6] So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate.” [7] They said to Him, “Why then did Moses command to give a certificate of divorce, and to put her away?” [8] He said to them, “Moses, because of the hardness of your hearts, permitted you to divorce your wives, but from the beginning it was not so.  [9] And I say to you, whoever divorces his wife, except for sexual immorality, and marries another, commits adultery; and whoever marries her who is divorced commits adultery.” [10] His disciples said to Him, “If such is the case of the man with his wife, it is better not to marry.”***

**The “End” *[1 Peter 4:7] But the end of all things is at hand; therefore be serious and watchful in your prayers.***

 ***[James 4:13-15] Come now, you who say, “Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a city, spend a year there, buy and sell, and make a profit”;  [14] whereas you do not know what will happen tomorrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor that appears for a little time and then vanishes away.  [15] Instead you ought to say, “If the Lord wills, we shall live and do this or that.”***

***[1 Peter 1:9] receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of your souls.***

**Dreading the best?  *[Romans 8:18-19] For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.  [19] For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.***

***[Philippians 3:7-11] But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.  [8] Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish, that I may gain Christ  [9] and be found in Him, not having my own righteousness, which is from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which is from God by faith; [10] that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,  [11] if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.***

**Discounting today**

 ***[John 9:4] I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.***

***[2 Thessalonians 3:7-13] For you yourselves know how you ought to follow us, for we were not disorderly among you; [8] nor did we eat anyone’s bread free of charge, but worked with labor and toil night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you,  [9] not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us. [10] For even when we were with you, we commanded you this: If anyone will not work, neither shall he eat.  [11] For we hear that there are some who walk among you in a disorderly manner, not working at all, but are busybodies.  [12] Now those who are such we command and exhort through our Lord Jesus Christ that they work in quietness and eat their own bread. [13] But as for you, brethren, do not grow weary in doing good.***

**Having the mind of Christ *[Philippians 2:5-8] Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus,  [6] who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God,  [7] but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming in the likeness of men.  [8] And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the cross.***

***[Hebrews 12:2] looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame,***

**Lip Service *[Philippians 1:21-23] For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain.  [22] But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell.  [23] For I am hard-pressed between the two, having a desire to depart and be with Christ, which is far better.***

***[Matthew 6:33] But seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things shall be added to you.***

***[John 14:1-3] Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me.  [2] In My Father’s house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.  [3] And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.***

***[2 Timothy 4:8] Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.***

***[1 Corinthians 16:22] If anyone does not love the Lord Jesus Christ, let him be accursed. O Lord, come quickly!***