

No Parking!

Phil. 3:13-14

Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

Observation

In every city and town, where through traffic can be found, one can find a “No Parking” sign. Even so, included in this thank you note from the Apostle Paul to the church at Philippi, we find a “No Parking” sign. In the text, the Apostle Paul declared that he could not park, but rather than, that he was under a divine compulsion to press toward the mark of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. In other words, Paul could not park. Those who are saved, like Paul, are under the same divine compulsion that is placed before Paul, a “No Parking” sign. Therefore, you and I cannot park.

Why can't we park? I believe this text offers at least three reasons we cannot park. Pray with me as we discover from our text these three reasons we must observe this spiritual “No Parking” sign.

The first reason we cannot park is because there is within every Christian a driving force that will not allow us to park. Paul said that he had been apprehended. You and I have been apprehended. Paul said in another place in scripture that we are not to be drunk with wine, but rather than, we should be filled with Holy Spirit. It is not so much that we have Holy Spirit, as it is the Holy Spirit has us!

The second reason that we cannot park is because there are at least a couple of popular places the devil tries to get Christians to park. First of all, the devil tries to get Christians to park beside their failures. The devil also tries to get Christians to park beside their successes. We cannot park in either place.

The third and final reason that you and I cannot park is because Jesus did not park. He did not park beside his miracles. He did not park beside his teachings. He did not park on Calvary, where he died for our sins. They buried Him in a borrowed tomb, but he did not park there. He rose again, and He ever lives to make intercession for us.

Application

My brothers and sisters, you and I must remain busy in the service of our Lord. We cannot park. There are souls to saved, and services to be rendered. We cannot park, not besides our failures, nor our successes. We cannot park.

Closing Prayer

Lord, your cause Your Spirit within us to make us consistently and continuously active in your service. Keep us ever mindful of the spiritual “No Parking” sign before us.