

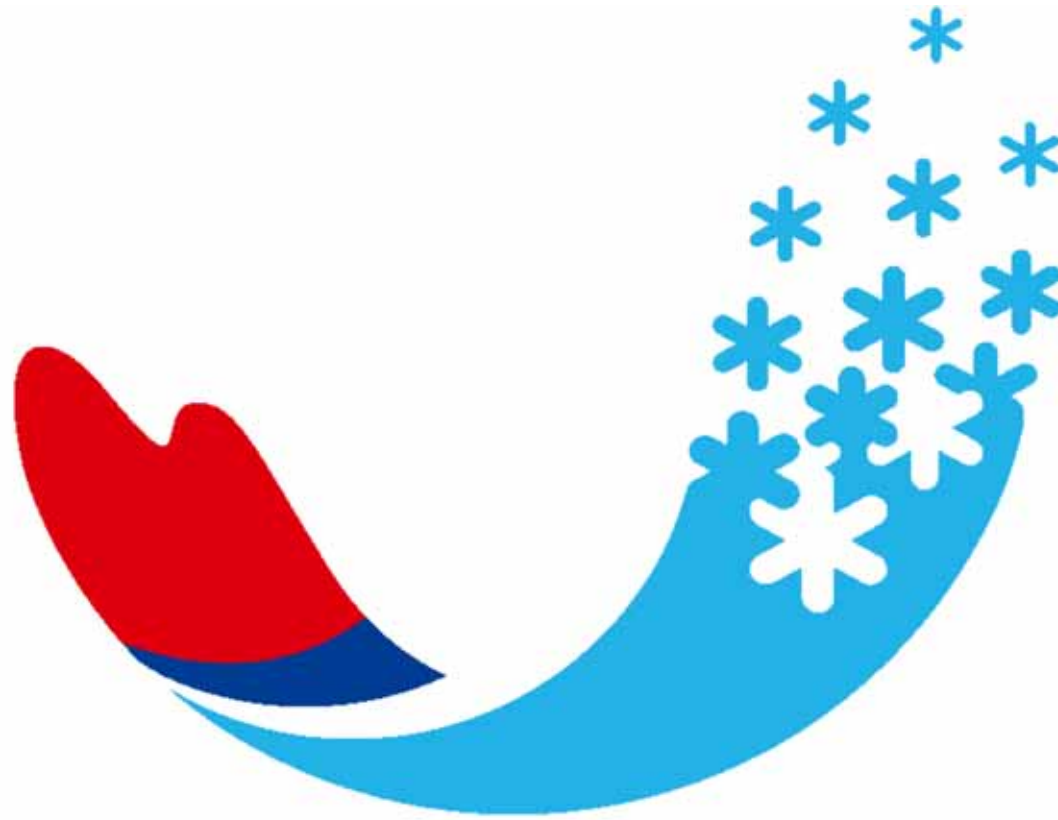
# Paul's Letter of Joy



***Reaching For The  
Upward Call of God***

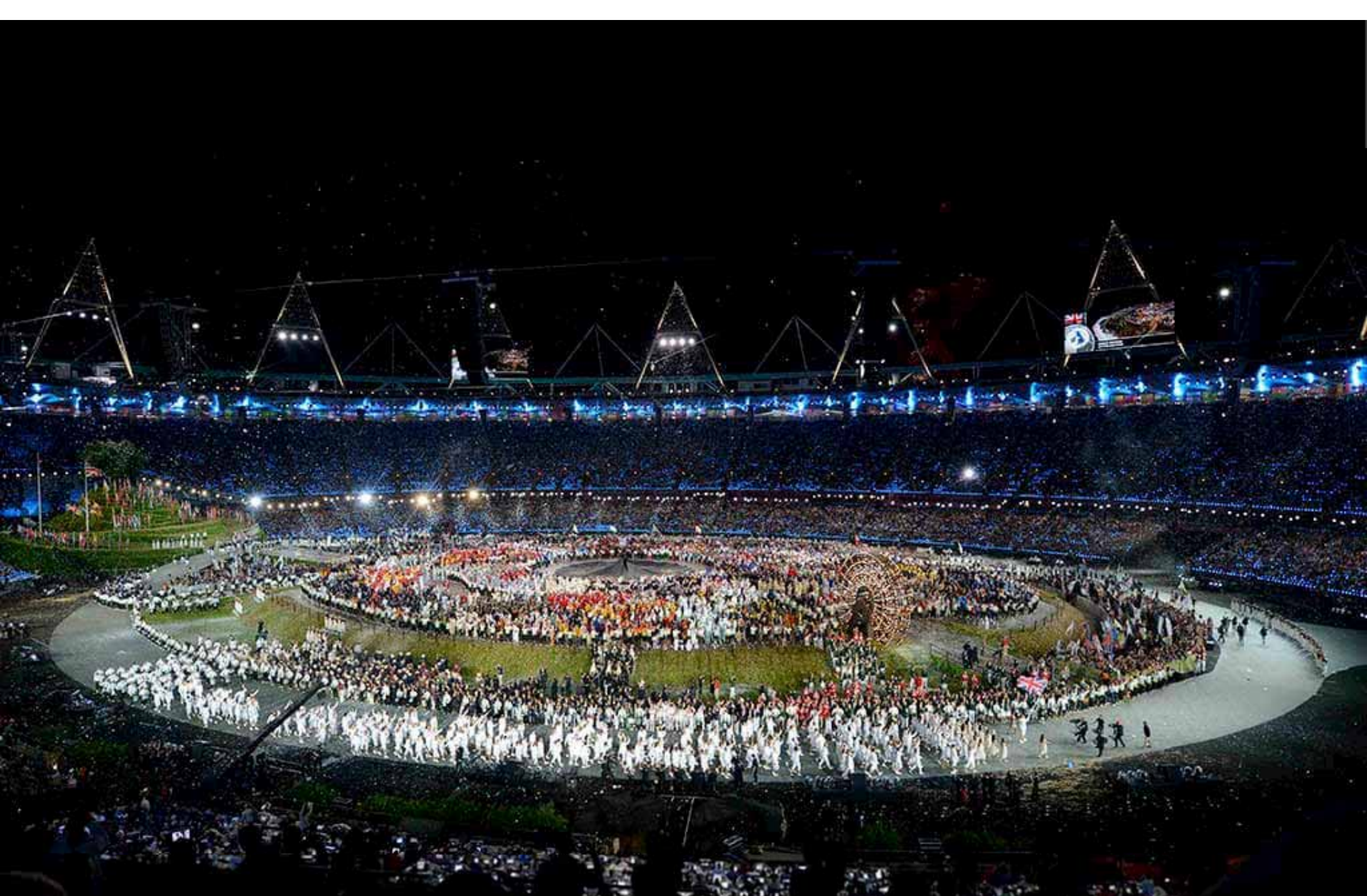
***Philippians 3:12 - 21***





***PyeongChang 2018***





***2018 Opening Ceremonies***





***They Compete For The Gold***

# ***Review of Recent Studies***

**Philippians 3:4 - 11**

**v. 4 - 8** - ***Paul gave up everything for Jesus Christ***

**v. 9 - 11** - ***Paul reveals what he wanted***

- ***Know Christ***
- ***Know power of the resurrection***
- ***Know the sufferings of Christ***
- ***Die for Christ***
- ***Be resurrected***

# ***Have Not Already Obtained It***

**Philippians 3:12**

***Not that I have already obtained it . . .***

# ***Have Not Already Obtained It***

**Philippians 3:12**

***Not that I have already obtained it . . .***

## ***Better translation***

***Not that I have already obtained or  
have already become perfect . . .***

# ***Paul's Reveals He Is A Christian***

**1 John 1:6-9**

- v. 6 - 7** - ***Non-Christian who claims they are a Christian but they continue to willfully sin***
- v. 8** - ***Non-Christian who thinks they are perfect – do not need to change***
- v. 9** - ***The Christian admits they still sin***



# *But I Press On . . .*

Philippians 3:12

*I press on . . .*



**dioko** = “to run, to press on”



***Paul Says That He Is Running***



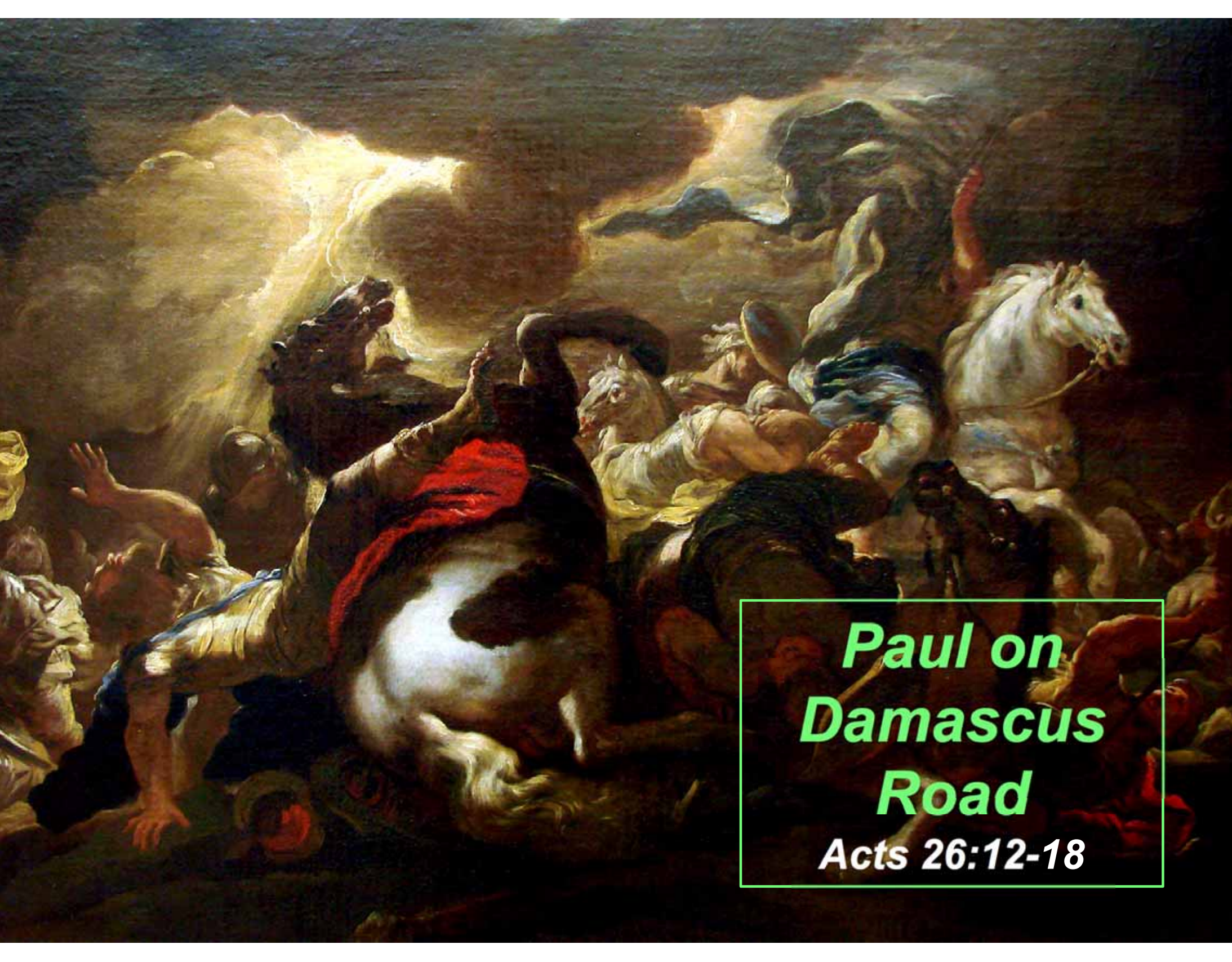
# ***But I Press On . . .***

**Philippians 3:12**

***. . . so that I may **lay hold** of . . .***



***katalambano = "to seize, to catch, to obtain"***



**Paul on  
Damascus  
Road**

**Acts 26:12-18**



# ***Forgetting and Reaching***

**Philippians 3:13**

- ***Paul says he has not arrived yet . . .***
- ***Paul forgets what lies behind . . .***
- ***Paul reaches for lies ahead . . .***



***Don't Look At Someone Else***





***Reaching For the Prize***



***Paul's Future Was Not Known***

# ***Pressing On For The Upward Call***

**Philippians 3:14**

- ***Presses toward the finish line***
- ***Wants the prize***





***The Prize Is The Upward Call***

# ***Paul's Play On Words***

**Philippians 3:15**

- ***If you think you are perfect, have this attitude . . .***

# *Paul's Play On Words*

Philippians 3:15

- *If you think you are perfect, have this attitude . . .*
- *If you have a different attitude, **and there are some who do!***
- ***God will help you know!***



# *Keep Living By The Same*

Philippians 3:16

*Keep living by **the same** . . . to which you have **attained**.*



**phthano** = “to reach, to achieve”

# ***Follow My Example***

**Philippians 3:17**

***. . . and others who follow our pattern.***

- ***Carefully choose who you follow.***
- ***Follow only those who follow our pattern.***

# ***The Opposite of Paul's Character***

**Philippians 3:18 - 19**

***Characteristics of the enemies of the cross:***

- ***Their god is food***
- ***They are proud of their sin***
- ***They are consumed with the world.***



# ***But We Are Different***

**Philippians 3:20 - 21**

***Our citizenship is in heaven.***

***We eagerly wait for the second coming of Christ.***

***We want to be like Christ.***

# Conclusion

- *We are urged to be like Paul.*
- *We must sacrifice our things & ourselves.*
- *We must reach forward to whatever lies ahead.*
- *We must press for the call to come home.*
- *Christ is our goal.*