



Enemies of the Cross Among Us!

Philippians 3:17-19

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 All Scriptures are printed verbatim with translations noted. • When Pastor Joe's commentary is added, God's Word will be printed in regular faced text with commentary in the smaller faced text. • Biblical words, underlined with dots, are explained in the brackets.
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☀ Message Section

Philippians 3:17, NASB95 - ¹⁷ Brethren, [a very endearing, loving, sincere term] *join in following* [an act of admiring] *my example* [Paul is an example of someone we could follow in his example], *and observe* [lit., admire] *those who walk according to the* [biblical] *pattern you have* [found and seen demonstrated] *in us.*

1. Their Description.

Philippians 3:18, NASB95 - ¹⁸ For many, [think "most"] *walk, of whom I often told you, and now tell you even weeping* [for Paul knows the future of these; He has no delight in telling us—it causes him to weep, and it should cause us to weep.], that they are enemies of the cross of Christ...

The cross of Jesus Christ is the theme of the Bible, the heart of the gospel, and the chief source of praise in heaven (Rev. 5:8-10). The cross is the proof of God's love for sinners (Rom. 5:8) and God hatred for sin. The cross condemns with the world's values. It judges mankind and pronounces the true verdict: *Guilty!* - Dr. Warren W. Wiersbe

1 Corinthians 1:18, NASB95 - ¹⁸ For the word of the cross is *foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.*

2. Their Destiny.

Philippians 3:19a, NASB95 - ¹⁹ whose end is destruction...

Philippians 3:19a, NLT - ¹⁹ They are headed for destruction.

Philippians 3:19a, TLB - ¹⁹ Their future is eternal loss...

3. Their Dependency.

Philippians 3:19b, NASB95 - ¹⁹ whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite...

Philippians 3:19b, JBP - ¹⁹ ...there god is to appease the flesh...

4. Their Dishonor.

Philippians 3:19c, NASB95 - ¹⁹ whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame...

Philippians 3:19c, TLB - ¹⁹ ... they are proud of what they should be ashamed of...

5. Their Delight.

Philippians 3:19d, NASB95 - ¹⁹ whose end is destruction, whose god is their appetite, and whose glory is in their shame, who set their minds on earthly things.

Philippians 3:19, TLB - ¹⁹ ...and all they think about is this life here on earth.

☀ Life Application Section

A. We must be careful who we follow.

B. Not all relationships are good.

C. Some among us claim to be Christians—but their lives betray them.

Some live for self-gratification • Some brag about their sins

D. Some (many) will not make it to Heaven.

E. All of this should break our hearts.

Matthew 7:13, NIV - ¹³ "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the road that leads to destruction, and many enter through it.

Matthew 7:21–23, NIV - ²² Many will say to me on that day, 'Lord, Lord... ²³ Then I will tell them plainly, 'I never knew you. Away from me, you evildoers!'