

**Philippians – Enemy or Friend of the Cross**  
**March 17, 2024**

**Quick Summary**

- Remember what we've been taught and "Hold On" to those fundamental truths
- Be intentional about the goals they have placed in their life
- Grow and Mature Spiritually

Two extreme people groups

**Enemy of the Cross**

- **Those who are living for this World and face a destiny of destruction**

**Friend of the Cross**

- **Those that are living for eternity and are patiently working and waiting for the glory eternity brings**

Philippians 3:18-21

Paul's broken to the point of tears because of what he has to say to

It's no different than a parent properly disciplining a child they love

- It's painful to discipline
- That's why it's called "tough love."

If it isn't going to hurt you to offer the discipline that you're not the right person to do it

Godly discipline always hurts both parties at the moment

Hebrews 12:5-6

Hebrews 12:10-11

Everything God does to chastise, and discipline is for our good, no matter how painful it may be at the time

**Enemy of the Cross**

- **Those who are living for this world face a destiny of destruction**

Philippians 3:18-19 For, as I have often told you before and now tell you again even with tears, many live as enemies of the cross of Christ. <sup>19</sup>**Their destiny is destruction**

*These enemies can best be understood as people claiming to follow Christ but at the same time corrupting His message and insulting His reputation by immoral lifestyles and false teachings.*

Paul takes a very hard stand against this compromised living, and so SHOULD WE

Philippians 3:19 Their destiny is destruction, **their god is their stomach, and their glory is in their shame. Their mind is set on earthly things.**

There are two camps here:

1. There are the “legalists”
  - Works gain spiritual life
2. They are the “libertines”
  - Grace covers open and repeated sins

1 John 2:15-17

### **Friend of the Cross**

- **Those that are living for eternity and are patiently working and waiting for the glory eternity brings**

Philippians 3:20-21

To be a part of this group, one must have a personal relationship with Jesus

**Repentance isn't when you cry, it's when you change**

What is the fruit in your life that proves your relationship with Jesus?

Matthew 6:19-21

True followers of Christ are no longer citizens of this world, and the desire of their heart proves it

CS Lewis:

**Aim at Heaven, and you'll get Earth thrown in; aim at Earth, and you'll get neither**

Cryonics

*The process of freezing and storing the body of a diseased, recently deceased person to prevent tissue decomposition so that at some future time, the person might be brought back to life upon development of new medical cures.*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G7TF5XrDcSA>

Can I give some much better news and a promise without a doubt?

*As Christians, we are pilgrims on a journey through this world and on our way to a new home. Heaven is our destination. It is the homeland for which we long. We have been born from above, and our names are written in heaven's directory. Heavenly standards guide our lives, and our rights and inheritance are reserved in heaven.*

Are you looking forward to and anticipating that day?