

A Tale of Two Paths & Two Cities (part I) Philippians 3:17-19

- Paul began this chapter with an exhortation to rejoice in the Lord (3:1)
- He warned the Philippians of the terrible danger of the Judaizers (3:2)
- He encouraged them to remember they are the true circumcision (3:3)
- vs. 4-11, Paul shares his testimony of conversion & grace in his life
- v. 12-16 He urges the Philippians to seek true perfection in Christ alone

I. Walk This Way and Follow Our Example (3:17)

- Paul's instruction "follow my e.g." his reference the e.g. you have in us
- Paul's e.g. suffering (1:12-18, 27-30) others over himself (19-26; 2:1-4)
- He sought to lift their eyes to Christ's servanthood (2: 5-11)
- He commended Timothy & Epaphroditus as examples (2:19-30)
- "Co-mimics of me become" not just "copy me," but "together copy me"
- Note, Paul's forceful directive "note those who/ or keep your eyes on"
- He is referring to how he had been running toward Christ (3: 15,16)
- Paul's e.g. draws us upward, his walk was infused with Christ

II. Do not Walk as those Who Turn Away From the Cross (3: 18, 19)

- Paul now issues a sharp & sorrowful "I now tell you even weeping"
- His warning is against a different set of guides: enemies of the cross-
"Whose end is destruction" *god is their belly, & whose glory, their shame*
- Beware of any professing Christian whose influence by life teaching weakens in you in the purpose of the cross
- Don't grow tired of the warnings of Scripture against such influences