

ENEMIES OF THE CROSS Phil. 2:18

the third chapter of Philippians is a garden in which we find flowers of great Christian compassion and weeds of gross Philippian wickedness.

I. What is the cross?

1. the foundation of our hope as fallen sinners
2. the source of our spiritual enjoyment, peace, joy, access to & fellowship with God.
3. The main theme of the gospel ministry.
4. The pledge of everlasting glory.

II. Who are its ENEMIES?

1. Those who deprive it of its saving virtue.
2. Those who decline its spiritual privileges -
A. an insurrection in a hospital
B.
3. Those who preach another gospel of which it is not the center.
4. Those who reject it as the condition of their heavenly crown.
A. Value their own righteousness - v. 9.
B. Have confidence in the flesh - v. 4.

III. What Is their Condition?

1. Their goal is destruction.
2. Their god is their belly. —
— the curse of carnality.
3. Their glory is in their shame
— sensual indulgence
4. Their occupation is with earthly things.
— worldly materialism.

IV. What Should Be our Attitude toward them?

1. Recognize them
2. Love them + weep over them.
"To weep for fear is childish;
To weep for anger is foolish;
To weep for grief is human;
for sin, Christian;
For compassion, is saint-like and Divine.
Every one of these drops is a pearl.
Sow thus for awhile in tears,
and be sure to reap for ever in joy.
3. Set before them the glory of the cross.