

WALKING AND WATCHING
PHIL. 3:17-21

Introduction:

- A. Paul tells the Philippians to be careful of their walk. v17.
 - 1. It is to be an orderly walk, marching in step, following rules or plans. v16.
 - 2. walk = to march, orderly walking.

- B. He offers self and others as men to watch.
 - 1. "followers of me" = imitators.
 - 2. "mark them" = use these as examples, types.

- C. There were others who were to be avoided.
 - 1. There are good examples and bad examples.
 - 2. The walk of verse 17 is to walk in rows or in order, in v18, it is to tread about, to be walking. One is a directed walk, the other is ambling.

I. THE FACT OF BAD EXAMPLES OR DECEIVERS. V18

- A. For many "walk, of whom I have told you often and now tell you even weeping, that they are the enemies of the cross of Christ."
 - 1. walk = to tread about, to be walking.
 - 2. These are not walking in order, they have no direction, they are "blind leaders of the blind."
 - 3. Paul has warned them of these people. v1,2
 - 4. He will warn them again.
 - 5. It is no joy to him, "I tell you even weeping."
 - 6. weeping = to lament, not only by shedding tears, but by other expressions of grief, bewail, mourn.

- B. The real position of these people.
 - 1. "they are the enemies of the cross of Christ."
 - 2. enemies = passively, hated, odious, object of enmity

3. The cross is an hated object, it has created enmity between the person and Jesus.
 4. "who behave as though they hated the cross of Christ"
- C. Many a preachers heart has been broken by the unconcern, bitterness, anger, sin, of those who walk aimlessly and not according to rules.
1. "Let me tell you, weeping, of people I have know who once loved and served, but who now behave as though the cross was an odious thing, it created enmity in them."

II. THE END AND DESCRIPTION OF THESE PEOPLE. V19

- A. "whose end is destruction."
1. destruction = loss of things, waste, ruin.
 2. I Cor. 3:15 Wood, hay, stubble, "shall suffer loss"
- B. "whose God is their belly."
1. belly = the hollow of the belly, its contents.
 2. "their appetites are their Gods."
- C. "Whose glory is their shame."
1. "they are proud of the things they should be ashamed of."
 2. How drunk, how mean, how inconsiderate, how blasphemous, these things are gloried in, rather than holy things.
- D. "who mind earthly things."
1. earthly = upon the earth.
 2. "they are absorbed in earthly matters."
 3. These are opposite of Paul, they hear no upward cry, the games, the wealth, the fame, the lawn, the fish, the hunt, the job, the weather.
 4. "Demas hath forsaken me, having loved this present world."

III. THE WALK AND WATCH OF GOD'S PEOPLE. V20-21.

- A. For our conversation is in heaven:
 - 1. conversation = life as a citizen.
 - 2. "but we are a colony of heaven."
 - 3. How would you expect people in a colony of heaven to behave themselves?
 - 4. What about a colony of heathens? Or a colony of Hell?

- B. "from whence also we look for the Saviour the Lord Jesus Christ."
 - 1. We aren't content to be a colony, we look for the King to take us to the Homeland!
 - 2. We look toward heaven, not Washington D.C.!

- C. "who shall change our vile body."
 - 1. vile = humiliation, of humiliation.
 - 2. "who will transfigure our humbled bodies."
 - 3. These mortal bodies are a source of humiliation and hindrance, Christ will come from heaven and change them.

- D. "that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body"
 - 1. "and give it a form like his resplendent body."
 - 2. "this corruption must put on incorruption."
 - 3. "this mortal must be clothed in immortality."

- E. "according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself."
 - 1. "using the same mighty power that He will use to conquer all else everywhere."

