

**Scripture:** 1 Cor. 10:1-33

**Singing:** 227:1-3 – 384:1-5 – 116:1-4 – 103:1-4

### **LET'S STUDY PHILIPPIANS (28)**

“Though Christ is not in Person on earth, He lives in persons on earth” (Gal. 2:20)

A. This is the reason why Paul could call us to *imitate him* (Phil. 3:17; 4:9)

#### **THE FRIENDS AND ENEMIES OF THE CROSS OF CHRIST**

I. Who are the friends of the cross of Christ ?

II. Who are the enemies of the cross of Christ?

#### **I. WHO ARE THE FRIENDS OF THE CROSS OF CHRIST?**

A. You are a friend if you don't find Paul's exhortations (vs. 15-17) irksome

B. Friends of Christ's cross follow Paul's way of faith and life

1. Do we share Paul's growing delight in Jesus Christ (vs. 8)?

2. Do we share Paul's increasing reliance on Him (vs. 9)?

3. Do we share Paul's energy to be crucified with Christ (vs. 10-14)?

C. What if you don't share these three aspects of Paul's life?

#### **II. WHO ARE THE ENEMIES OF JESUS CHRIST AND HIS CROSS?**

A. Sadly many remained the enemies of cross of Christ in the churches (Rev. 2-3)

1. Paul was not afraid to speak about them publicly (18):

2. Yet he did so with weeping (Acts 20:19, 31; 2 Cor. 2:4; vs. 18; Luke 19:41)

B. What do 'enemies of the cross of Christ' look like? (vs. 19)

1. They destroy themselves (2 Thess. 1:7-10; Prov. 29:1)

2. They make their belly their God (Rom. 1:21-25)

3. They glory in their shame (their sins) (Romans 1:32)

4. They mind earthly things (Rom. 8:5-7)

**Closing observations**

A. How many of us church members are actually enemies of cross? (James 4:4)

1. Are the things that Jesus minded supremely what we mind? Are we ready to 'take up His cross' and follow Him?

2. Which enemies of the cross Jesus most injure Jesus' cause in the world?

B. As 'friends of Jesus' let your shortcomings not cancel your hope in Him