HOW TO LIVE GODLY Philippians 3:17-21

INTRODUCTION:

- A. Today, we will continue our study in Paul's letter to the Philippian Believers. Based on our text, Paul informed the Philippian Believers how to live godly for Christ Jesus. A doctrinal error, concerning Sin and Grace, was invading the church at Philippi. The error was in the area of Legalism and Libertinism.
- B. In Philippians 3:12, Paul said he was not perfect Sinless.

He realized there was always room for improvement – Spiritual Growth. We will not be perfect in this life – yet, that fact is not a license to Sin.

- **I.** Follow Godly Examples (v. 17)
 - A. Paul was encouraging the Philippians to be followers or Imitators of Himself (c. 17a)
 - **B.** Paul was encouraging the Philippians to imitate approved faithful Christians (v. 17b).
 - C. There were some in Thessalonica who imitated Paul (1 Thess 1:6-9).
 - **D.** Paul and other approved faithful Christians were Godly Examples (Pattern) to imitate (v. 17a).
- **II.** Flee Ungodly Examples (vv. 18-19)
 - A. Paul is sharing this information about ungodly examples with tears "weeping" (v. 18). Why? Because they are "the enemies of the Cross of Christ" (v. 18).
 - B. Who are the enemies of the Cross of Christ? (1 Cor 2:14).
 - C. Marks of "the enemies of the Cross" (v. 19)
- **III.** Focus on the Blessed Hope (vv. 20-21)
 - **A. Blessed Hope** (John 14:3; Titus 2:13).
 - **B.** Our citizenship is in Heaven
 - **C. Focus** Praise God that your name is written in "The Book of Life" (Rev 20:12, 15; 21:27).
 - **D.** Focus Praise God that you name is written down in Heaven and it stands written forever (Luke 10:20).

CONCLUSION:

- A. How to Live Godly for Jesus? Follow Godly Examples, Flee Ungodly Examples, and Focus on the Blessed Hope.
- **B.** Blessed Assurance
- C. Do you know Jesus as your Savior? Surely your end will be eternal destruction if you die without Christ as your Savior.
- D. Christ will forgive any and all sins you have ever committed.
- E. Romans Road to Salvation (Rom 3:10, 23; 5:8; 10:9, 13)

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"... the word of our God shall stand for ever" (Isa 40:8).