

**Enemies Of The
Cross
Phil. 3:18**

Introduction

- There are some **enemies** of the cross
- Some are **unaware** that they are enemies of the cross
- It is a **terrible** thing to be an enemy of the cross

Some Enemies Of The Cross Of Christ

- 1. Those who walk contrary to the **teaching** of the Apostles of Christ
- **Acts 2:42**
- **Phil. 3:17-18**

Acts 2:42

- “And they continued stedfastly in the **apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

Phil 3:17-18

- “Brethren, be followers together of me, and mark them which walk so as ye have us for an ensample. [18] (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**”

Some Enemies Of The Cross Of Christ

- 2. Those “whose God is their belly”
- **Phil. 3:19**
- “Whose end is destruction, **whose God is their belly**, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.”

Some Enemies Of The Cross Of Christ

- **“Whose God is their belly”** =
They lived to satisfy the fleshly lusts
- **Rom. 16:18**
- **“For they that are such serve not our Lord Jesus Christ, but their own belly”**

Some Enemies Of The Cross Of Christ

- 3. Those “who mind earthly things”
- This is the opposite of Col. 3:1-2
- **Col. 3:1-2**

Col. 3:1-2

- “If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God. **Set your affection on things above**, not on things on the earth”

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- 4. Those would “pervert the right ways of the Lord”
- **Acts 13:10**
- “And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, thou child of the devil, thou enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to **pervert the right ways of the Lord?**”

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- **5. Those who forsake the church**
- **Heb. 10:26-30**

Heb. 10:26-30

- “For if we **sin wilfully** after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins, [27] But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries. [28] He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

Heb. 10:26-30

- **[29] Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?**

Heb. 10:26-30

- **[30] For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people.”**

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- **6. Those who cause division in the body of Christ**
- **Acts 20:28-31**
- **Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.**

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- For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock. Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to **draw away disciples after them.** Therefore watch, and remember, that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears.”

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- **7. Those who oppose the church**
- **Acts 26:9-11**
- **1 Tim. 1:12-13**

Acts 26:9-11

- **“I verily thought with myself, that I ought to do many things contrary to the name of Jesus of Nazareth.
[10] Which thing I also did in Jerusalem: and many of the saints did I shut up in prison, having received authority from the chief priests**

Acts 26:9-11

- **; and when they were put to death, I gave my voice against them.
[11] And I punished them oft in every synagogue, and compelled them to blaspheme; and being exceedingly mad against them, I persecuted them even unto strange cities.”**

1 Tim. 1:12-13

- “And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that **he counted me faithful**, putting me into the ministry;
[13] **Who was before** a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did it ignorantly in unbelief.”

Conclusion

- The Lord will take vengeance on his enemies
- 2 Th. 1:6-10

2 Th. 1:6-10

- **“Seeing it is a righteous thing with God to recompense tribulation to them that trouble you; And to you who are troubled rest with us, when the Lord Jesus shall be revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, In flaming fire taking vengeance on them that know not God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ:**

2 Th. 1:6-10

- **Who shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of his power; When he shall come to be glorified in his saints, and to be admired in all them that believe (because our testimony among you was believed) in that day.”**

References

- **“Enemies Of The Cross”, by George W. Butterfield**
- **Commentary on Philippians, by Bob Winton**
- **Notes on Philippians by James M. Tolle**