

Whose Example Are You Following?

Philippians 3:17-21

# I. Don't Follow the Example of Fake Christians (vv.18-19).

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*For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction (vv.18-19b).*

A. We need to be on guard against Fake Christians in the church.

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Paul wrote this warning with *tears*.

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Paul described them as *enemies of the cross of Christ*.

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Paul described how their lives will end:  
*Their end is destruction.*

B. We know who some of the fake Christians are because they show no signs of spiritual life.



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*. . . their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things. (v.19)*

1. Fake Christians focus on satisfying their physical appetites.

*their god is their belly*

*Make every effort to live in peace with everyone and to be holy; without holiness no one will see the Lord. (Heb.12:14)*

2. Fake Christians are proud of what they should be ashamed of.

*they glory in their shame*

3. Fake Christians have a worldly view of life.

*with minds set on earthly things.*

*“Earthly things* are not the practical affairs of everyday life, but things that characterize worldly life in opposition to God.”

- Frank Thielman

C. Fake Christians end up in hell – *their end is destruction* (v.19a).

*Whoever walks with the wise becomes wise, but the companion of fools will suffer harm. (Prov.13:20)*



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*Do not be misled: “Bad company corrupts good character.” (I Cor.15:33)*