

Finding Examples Worth Following **Philippians 3:17-21**

Paul addressed legalism in 2-11; then he addressed perfectionism and the notion of easing up because of past success in 12-16; and now he nails the issue of antinomianism--and again examples / patterns are key!

Examples we should follow in life, 17

- Paul = an example: 4:9, I Cor. 4:16,17, 10:32,33, 11:1, II Thess. 3:7-9.
- Others who = good examples: I Thess. 1:6, I Tim. 4:12, Heb. 6:12, 13:7.
- Why be *scoping out / on the lookout* (Rom. 16:17) for good examples?

Examples we should avoid in life, 18,19

Q: Who are these who make Paul weep and are enemies of the cross?

- 1) *Their end is destruction*, II Cor. 11:13-15 (contrast w/3:12)
- 2) *Their god is their belly*, Rom. 16:17,18
- 3) *Their glory is their shame*, Hos. 4:7
- 4) *Their mindset is worldly*, contrast *mindset* in 2:5, 3:15

This = a warning about believers who are likely self-indulgent itinerants.

Eagerly awaiting our Savior 20,21

- Two contrasting lifestyles come with two contrasting destinies.
- Eagerly waiting for Christ's coming: I Cor. 1:7, Heb. 9:28, Rom. 8:19ff.
- Two highlights of Christ's coming: 1) our physical transformation,
2) subjection of all things to Himself.
- Compare our *humble state's future transformation* (3:21) with 2:6-8.
Compare our conforming to His *glory* w/2:9-11. See the implications?

**A good example has twice
the value of good advice.**



Are you on
the lookout
for positive
examples to
follow?

How about
providing a
positive
example for
others?