

Inner Workings

In Phil 3:19 Paul is talking about the *believers* he had encountered. He was saying that he (verse 14) was pressing toward the goal of the upward call of our Father in Messiah. “In Messiah,” meaning in the Body, in the practical reality of Yahshua. Then it goes on in verse 18 that many in Messiah walk, “as I have told you often, even weeping, who are enemies of the cross.” He was weeping over the people he knew who were enemies of the cross. “Whose end is destruction, whose god is their *matrix*, whose glory is their shame.” Where it says *belly* there it doesn’t necessarily mean people who gobble down food, but it is the word *matrix* – the inner workings within them, the churning inner workings from which something else originates, something else that is coming forth from within. It is something else working deep down inside a person; it is something working other than, “All I want to do is do our Father’s will, put my mind on the goal, knowing Him, pressing on.”

There are two workings here: Messiah working to take hold of us, and us working to take hold of what He took hold of us for. Those are the only workings. Other workings make us enemies of the cross — enemies. Paul was talking about people who were always holding grudges, etc., always giving attention to something from down deep, where *something else* originates. It is not just an appetite for food, but whatever you have a taste for. Whatever is in you that stimulates that desire for worldly things. Paul says they are going to go to destruction because everything they’re doing will burn. That was enough for Paul to weep over.

People in the world are not enemies of the cross; it is people in here who can be enemies of the cross. If you have a little appetite for things of the world because it stimulates that inner working within you, then it makes you an enemy of the cross. You put your invisible soul and spirit on something else, not on the Holy Spirit. It is another spirit.

We want to be allied to our Master, not enemies of Him. You are either for Him or against Him. At any given time in the Body you are either gathering or scattering.

In death you still have an invisible soul. It is acutely aware of what is going on, only then you won’t have your brain working too, but only the soul.

We have to be judges. We have to judge ourselves that this inner working doesn’t come forth, bubbling up, like froth, corruption. We may try to cover it up, make it look good, but we are enemies of the cross if we don’t put it to death on the cross.

It says, “whose end is destruction, whose god is their matrix, whose glory is in their shame.” That person’s glory is what they should be ashamed of – that inner working. “Who set their mind on earthly things” — treat each other as earthly, like a natural man.

There is a lot to be understood there. It’s possible we won’t be exalted to the right hand of Messiah because of what we put our mind on now. So we have to judge ourselves better. We are not condemned. We can judge ourselves if we’ve been doing it and turn the other way. We have the word. It is a lamp to our feet.

Ko-lev: *Matrix* sounds like our own agenda. You get offended and don’t want to give it up, and then you do things from there and it makes trouble.

Emet: There is the cross and then there is the inner workings. The cross was designed to do away with the inner workings (1 Cor 1:17-18). No man is totally free of the appetites of the inner workings – of self. But that’s the message of the cross: that a man can be free of those appetites. When you chose your appetite over the cross, that is who you make your master.

Whoever you put your mind on is your god.

Chanowk: Phil 2:2-3 — Paul talked a lot to them about this. And he goes on telling them that they should judge selfishness, everything that would promote themselves. Those inner workings are in every man. It’s what makes the world tick. But our Master brought men the power to judge those things and not live for themselves anymore. His dedicated people have a higher goal than to satisfy those inner workings. When you come into Messiah you make a covenant and you are dedicated to serving God and not your belly. You can either serve God or your belly. It’s always in us, always going to come up. But we can confess it. “I don’t want to be this

way; give me grace to be a disciple.” The only way you can be in unity and of one mind is if you confess those things, otherwise when they come up they will always stand in the way of you loving your brothers.

Zebulun: When I tell someone that I did something good, I feel good, but that’s those inner workings.

ha-Emeq: Maybe that’s why the cross got to be in such an exalted place in that religion. We have really interesting concepts of our religion, but then there’s the cross. I could imagine a young disciple back then in those days might have even drawn one to remind himself: “This is where you have to die. This is what you need to take to the cross. I need to put this to death.” Because this is so important. This is the main part of our religion — the cutting off part, the dying part, the cross. You can try to analyze those inner workings, or we can say, “This is the cross; you need to put that to death or else you are an enemy of the cross.” “Oh, you mean all I have to do is just die? Oh, I thought I had to figure out why I was like this and how my mother put it into me and I was put with this certain shepherd when I first came into the community and that’s why it takes me a few years to get over these hurts.” “Oh, really? I can just die?!!!! Then I can rise from the dead!” I’m so thankful that we don’t have to be enemies of the cross.

We don’t want to be thieves of each other’s time, laboring long hours to deal with this problem that you won’t go to the cross with.

Yoceph: Those who don’t judge it and cut it off are going to go on in that. It deals with every problem right there – as not judging ourselves and cutting off those inner workings.

We can go to our Abba and ask Him to help us in these things.