**3  Finally, my brethren, rejoice in the Lord.   
For me to write the same things to you *is* not tedious, but for you *it is* safe.**

**2 Beware of dogs, beware of evil workers, beware of the mutilation!**

**3 For we are the circumcision,   
 who worship God in the Spirit,   
 rejoice in Christ Jesus,   
 and have no confidence in the flesh,**

**4 though I also might have confidence in the flesh.   
If anyone else thinks he may have confidence in the flesh, I more so:**

**5 circumcised the eighth day, of the stock of Israel, *of* the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of the Hebrews; concerning the law, a Pharisee; 6concerning zeal, persecuting the church; concerning the righteousness which is in the law, blameless.**

**7 But what things were gain to me, these I have counted loss for Christ.**

**8 Yet indeed I also count all things loss for the excellence of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them as rubbish,**

**that I may gain Christ**

**9 and be found in Him,**

**not having my own righteousness, which *is* from the law,**

**but that which *is* through faith in Christ,**

**the righteousness which is from God by faith;**

**10 that I may know Him**

**and the power of His resurrection,**

**and  the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,**

**11 if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.**

**12 Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected;   
but I press on,**

**that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.**

**13 Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing *I do,*   
 forgetting those things which are behind   
 and reaching forward to those things which are ahead,**

**14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.**

**15 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind;**

**and if in anything you think otherwise, God will reveal even this to you.**

**16 Nevertheless, to *the degree* that we have already attained,   
let us walk by the same rule, let us be of the same mind.**

**17 Brethren, join in following my example,**

**and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern.**

**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:**

**19 whose end *is* destruction,**

**whose god *is their* belly,**

**and  *whose* glory *is* in their shame—**

**who set their mind on earthly things.**

**20 For our citizenship is in heaven,**

**from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ,**

**21 who will transform our lowly body**

**that it may be conformed to His glorious body,**

**according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself.**

**4 Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown,   
so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.**