

# The CROSS:

## Enemies or Examples?

### Philippians 3:17-21



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<sup>17</sup> Brethren, join in following my example, and note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. <sup>18</sup> 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: <sup>19</sup> whose end is destruction, whose god is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame — who set their mind on earthly things. <sup>20</sup> For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>21</sup> 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.

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# Distinguishing Characteristics

## EXAMPLES

- Walk by pattern of apostles
- Citizenship in heaven
- Seek glory with Christ
- Seek heavenly things

## ENEMIES

- Whose end is perdition
- Whose god is their belly
- Whose glory is in their shame
- Who mind earthly things

# Where Does Each Type Begin?

# Beginning Point For Each Is That Which Serves As Standard

## EXAMPLES

- **Walk by pattern of apostles**
- **Citizenship in heaven**
- **Seek glory with Christ**
- **Seek heavenly things**

## ENEMIES

- **Whose end is perdition**
- **Whose god is their belly**
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# Beginning Point For EXAMPLES

- Walk by pattern of apostles

**2 Timothy 1:8-13**

- Citizenship in heaven

**1 Corinthians 11:1**

**1 Corinthians 4:16-17**

- Seek glory with Christ

**Result:**

- Seek heavenly things

**1 Thess. 1:6-10**

# Beginning Point For ENEMIES

- Whose end is perdition
- Whose god is their belly
- Whose glory is in their shame
- **Who mind earthly things**

**Matthew 6:24**

**1 John 2:15-16**

**Romans 8:5-8**

**Result:**

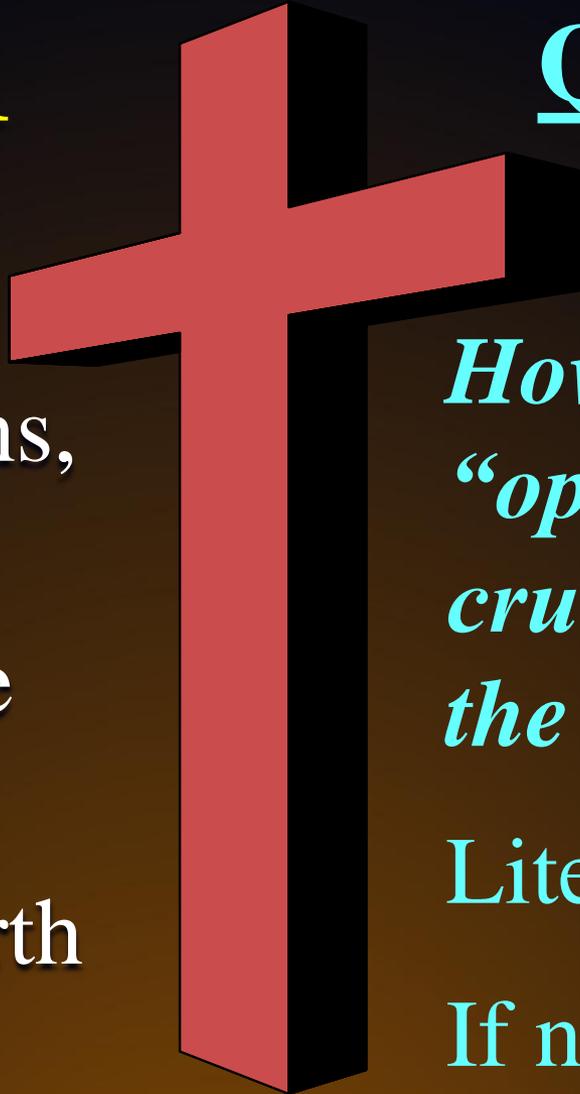
**James 4:4**

# What Is Point Being Made Here?

**Galatians 3:1**

*(ASV)*

O foolish Galatians,  
who did bewitch  
you, before whose  
eyes Jesus Christ  
was openly set forth  
crucified?



Question:

*How was Jesus  
“openly set forth  
crucified” before  
the Galatians?*

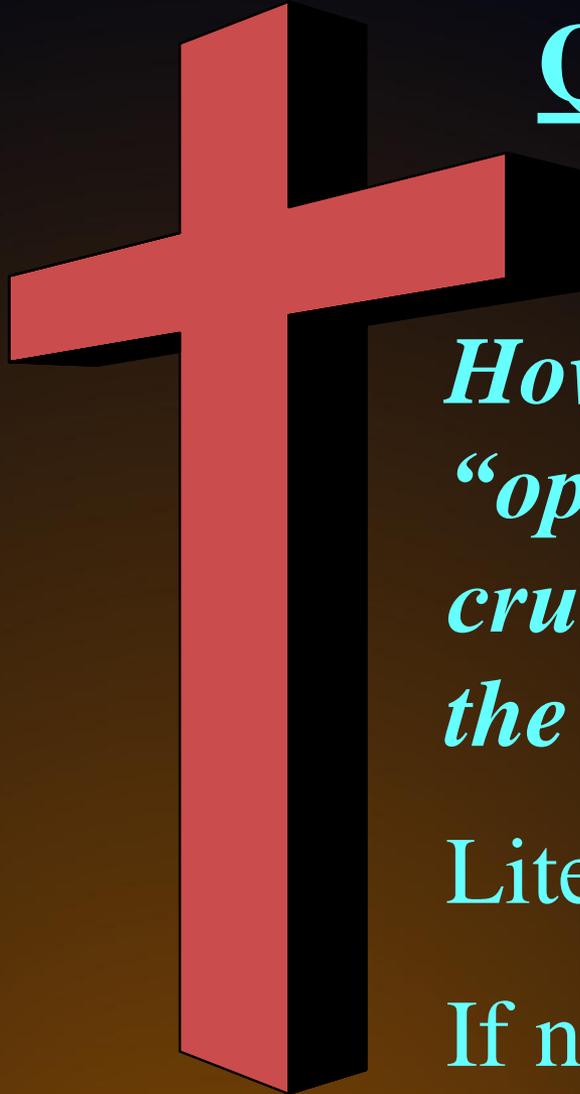
Literally?

If not, then how?

# What Is Point Being Made Here?

## Galatians 3:1

O foolish Galatians!  
Who has bewitched  
you that you should  
not obey the truth,  
before whose eyes  
Jesus Christ was  
clearly portrayed  
among you as  
crucified? (*NKJV*)



## Question:

*How was Jesus  
“openly set forth  
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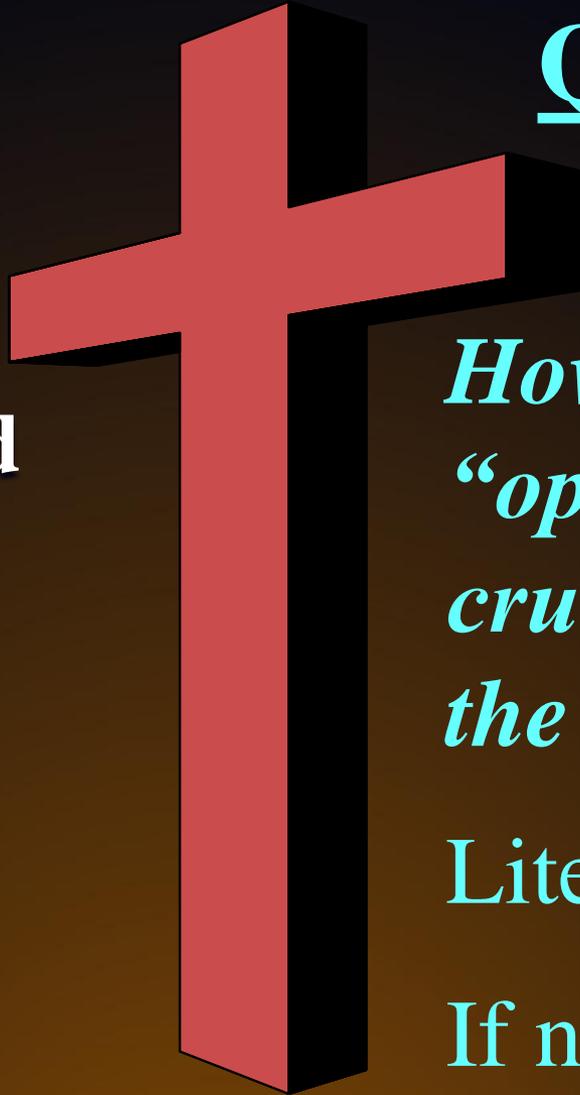
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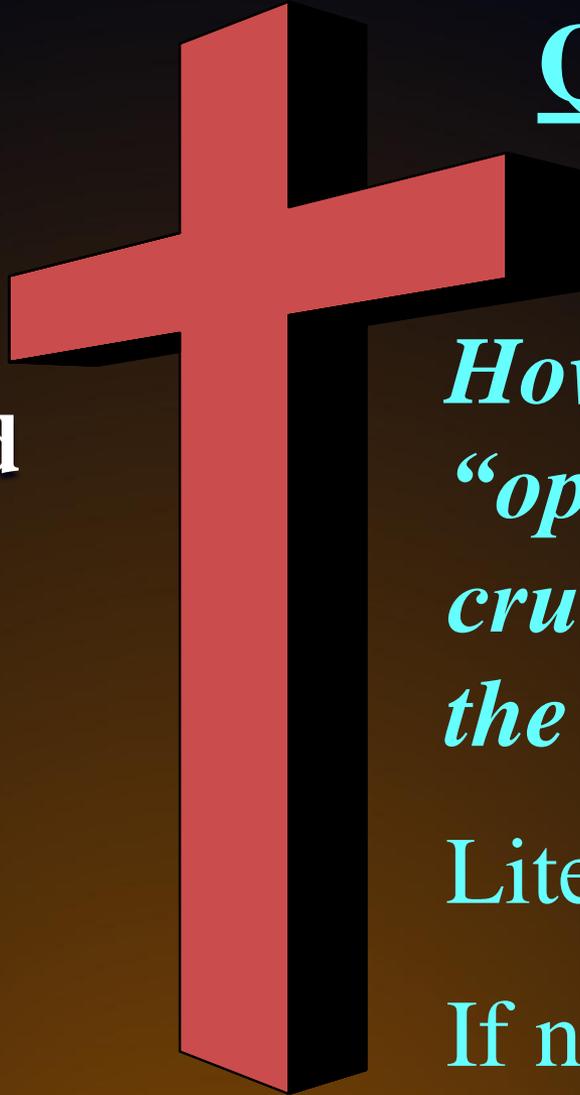
Literally?

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# What Is Point of Context?

## Galatians 3:1

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Who has bewitched  
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before whose eyes  
Jesus Christ was  
**clearly portrayed**  
**among you as**  
**crucified?**



## Question:

*How was Jesus  
“openly set forth  
crucified” before  
the Galatians?*

Literally?

If not, then how?

# ENEMIES Of Cross Do Not...

- Take an axe to the literal cross
- Act disrespectfully towards literal cross
- Speak with contempt about literal cross
- Deny existence of the literal cross
- Or even remain silent about literal cross
- Necessarily deny importance of literal cross

**May be enemy of cross while professing it!**

# ENEMIES Of Cross Do...

- Seek to destroy message of cross (gospel)
- Act disrespectfully towards authority of message of the cross (truth)
- Speak with contempt about true doctrine
- Deny the unique identity of blood-bought body (church)
- Remain silent when truth is misrepresented
- Deny importance of preaching the full message of gospel in purity & simplicity

# Likewise, **EXAMPLES** of Cross...

- Do not merely show the likeness of the literal cross
- Do not make a drama of reenactment out of the literal cross & events thereof

**BUT...**

- Proclaim full message of cross (*1 Cor. 1 & 2*)
- Live by faith as directed by message of the crucified Christ (*Gal. 2:20*)

Am I An **EXAMPLE**

*-or-*

An **ENEMY**

of Christ's Cross?