

"(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: Whose end is destruction, whose God is their belly, and whose glory is in their shame, who mind earthly things.) For our conversation is in heaven; from whence also we look for the Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ: Who shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto His glorious body, according to the working whereby He is able even to subdue all things unto Himself. Therefore, my brethren, dearly beloved and longed for, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, my dearly beloved." **Philippians 3:18-4:1 KJV**



As defined by Webster's 1828 dictionary, the word, *conversation*, means: a general course of manners; a keeping of company; an intimate and familiar acquaintance; or a familiar discourse. This is the idea the translators meant to convey as the meaning of the Greek text from which they translated today's passage. All of the above should apply in every sense to our existence on this planet in this life of time. Our behavior, relationships, thoughts, deeds, and speech should be of a heavenly or spiritual nature. You've heard it said, "He's so heavenly minded he's no earthly good." Nothing could be farther from the Truth! If we're NOT heavenly minded, we are no earthly good! The more thoughts of God's Word and heaven saturate my soul, the more conscientious I will become in my work ethic, my behavior, and my attitude towards others. *"Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others. Let this mind (God's Word) be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God: But made Himself of no reputation, and took upon Him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men: And being found in fashion as a man, He humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross."* The opposite is also true. The less God's Word saturates my thoughts, the less productive and more self-centered I will become. The "middle of the road" is an uncomfortable and dangerous place to be for any driver as well as for the believer. It's hard enough to keep on the "right" without allowing a drift towards the other side. The traffic on the other side is going in the opposite direction. We will have to change direction to avoid collision. If we are in the "middle" we are going against traffic in both lanes. Our direction is unclear. It's either right, or it's wrong, but not both! There are no gray areas with God. You are either with Him or against Him. God's Word says, *"He that is not with me is against me: and he that gathereth not with me scattereth."* You choose wrong by not choosing right. Where is your "*conversation*" these days?

Keep your mind on heavenly things,
Let your heart with its music ring,
Let your lips with His praises sing,
Let your love be unto our KING. ~CGP

Did you do any "gathering" with God, yesterday? If not, you were working against Him! *"Keep thy tongue from evil, and thy lips from speaking guile. Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it. The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry. The face of the LORD is against them that do evil, to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth."* God made believers worthy of His complete love and attention when they were not worthy of His! *"We love Him, because He FIRST Loved us!"*

"I am a companion of all them that fear Thee, and of them that keep Thy precepts. The earth, O LORD, is full of Thy mercy: teach me Thy statutes." Psalms 119:63-64 KJV