

**Introduction**

1. We should note how NT Epistles end
2. Exx. Rom. – 1 Cor. – Phil. – Heb.
3. Gal. = in serious error, yet Paul so ends.  
**OBSERVE:** All the trials of this life are only for our good and they will end in triumph!

**1. TAKE HEED TO STOP ALL "GLORYING" BUT THIS**

- 1) "Glorying" = proud boasting. It is the way the unconverted live – and is so wrong.
- 2) What men glory in too readily:
  - (i) The rich in their wealth: **Illustration:** Rich Fool
  - (ii) The mighty in their power: **Illustration:** Nebuchadnezzar
  - (iii) The learned in their knowledge: **Illustration:** Pharisees
- 3) What even Christians may glory in:
  - (i) their progress in "sanctification"
  - (ii) their grasp of Christian doctrine
  - (iii) the name and style of their church
  - (iv) their famous preachers: "I of Paul"  
**APPLICATION:** "Pride of life" = why so called?

**2. THE ONE THING CHRISTIANS SHOULD GLORY IN**

- 1) The "Cross":
  - (i) because it alone is God's method to save
  - (ii) there died the God-Man Redeemer
  - (iii) there alone is power to change man
  - (iv) there we see God's wisdom displayed
  - (v) there love and justice meet + kiss
  - (vi) our relationship to everything is changed by the cross: v.14

(vii) this place of Christ's agony is the place where profoundest humility is displayed

- 2) It is true for Paul: Phil. 3 – and for all true believers.  
**APPLICATION:** If you want to grow more holy, study the Cross and all its lessons.

**3. IT SHOULD BE OUR CONCERN MORE AND MORE TO GLORY IN THE CROSS**

- 1) This great Apostle does so with an oath
- 2) The Cross is despised by non-Christians as foolishness and offensive till they are saved.
- 3) We shall need to rely on it all our life
- 4) It will be our boast in heaven
- 5) It is the answer to all man's problems.  
**OBSERVE:** What will put man right? The Cross!
- 6) It is what is preached in days of revival
- 7) It is what all converts glory in, no matter how they may otherwise differ.

**CONCLUSION**

Listen to John Calvin:  
 "There is no tribunal so magnificent, no theme so stately, no show of triumph so distinguished, no chariot so elevated as is the gibbet on which Christ has subdued death and the devil.

**PSALM****21: 1 – 5****22: 14 – 20****118: 20 – 26**