

# Standing Firm!

## Introduction

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In the previous study we learnt about Paul's concern to protect the Philippians from false teaching and his remarkable determination to 'rejoice in the Lord' – i.e. to find all his comfort and confidence in who is Christ is and what Christ has done. For Paul the great issue is "to know Christ and to be found in Him". One of the characteristics of the false teaching that Paul was warning against was perfectionism – the notion that by certain rituals one could *arrive spiritually* in this life. Paul counters this misconception in Philippians 3vs12-4vs1 – reminding the Philippians of his own determination to press on to the end urging them to stand firm on the Lord in the same manner.

## Study Questions

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(These questions should be answered from the text)

Read Philippians 3vs7-4vs1.

1. What goals did Paul have for his life according to 3vs7-11?
2. What was Paul's assessment of his achievements in this regard?
3. What characterised Paul's daily life as a Christian?

4. What were the Philippians to do in the light of Paul's example?

5. What did Paul mean when he spoke about living as an enemy of the Cross'?

6. How were the Philippians to stand firm in the Lord?

### **Think it Through**

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1. In what way have Paul's words:  
a. Challenged you?

b. Encouraged you?