

Have One Mind (in Christ) - Philippians 2:5

A Monthly Magazine

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Real Liberty - Jerry O'Donnell

Have you ever experienced or heard of a conversation similar to this:

"Hey, buddy. Want to go grab a smoke?" "No thanks. I don't smoke anymore." "Okay, later do you want to go grab a couple of drinks, decompress, get a little buzz on?" "No thanks. I don't drink anymore." "Hey. That movie sequel hits the screens this weekend – you know, the one that is action-packed, lots of shooting up, great looking women, ... do you want pick a time and go see it?" "No thanks. I don't like watching those types of movies anymore." "Huh. That's interesting. So, next weekend we're having a crab fest. My buddy has scored us tons of crabs to eat at a good price. Want to come over for some crabs and beer?" "Sorry, but I don't eat shell fish anymore." "Well, Monday night the big game is on. We can call the guys over and have a sports party?" "In all honesty, I'm not much into sports anymore." "Okay, what's going on?" "Well, ever since I began to understand from the Bible what a true Christian is like, I have given up all of those things." "What??? Bro, I'm a Christian, too, you know. Are you putting yourself under

bondage? Are you trying to work your way to Heaven? Christ has liberated us from all those restrictive rules. Come on, enjoy life as God intended us to do!"

Many Christians think that Jesus has set us at liberty to enjoy life, being pleasant to one another is understandable, but if the gospel is shared there is only one requirement – just believe. To keep the commandments, to keep God's Word, it is vastly believed that it is unnecessary to put on any restrictions, especially since we are all saved and cannot be lost.

What does the Bible teach about this concept called Christian liberty?

The first half of Psalms 119:45 states, "And I will walk at liberty". Here is our first encounter of what appears to be freedom to do whatever, and it is even found in the Old Testament. That is pointed out because many think that the Old Testament was restrictive, but the New Testament is liberating. However, the second half of Psalms 119:45 states, "for I seek thy precepts." That means that the closer the precepts or rules are followed, the more at liberty a

person actually happens to become.

As we move forward through the Bible, we see the mission of Christ in Isaiah 61:1, which says, "The Spirit of the Lord GOD [is] upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to [them that are] bound." Luke 4:18 confirms this as Jesus applied it to Himself. Now, focusing on the liberating, both verses point to the fact that the captives are the ones needing to be liberated. That raises the question of, "Captive to what?" Although, this next verse that we are going to share in answer to that question explicitly states "silly women", it is very helpful to understand what people are captive to by focusing on just that part. And it is not cruel tyrants holding people captive or even kidnappers. "For of this sort are they which creep into houses, and lead captive silly women laden with sins, led away with divers lusts, Ever learning, and never able to come to the knowledge of the

**A Publication By Bible Believing Christians
For Bible Believing Christians**

truth.” (2 Timothy 3:6-7). Captivity involves sinning and lusts.

So, when we sin, that is when we lose our liberty; that is when we are held in captivity. Jesus did not come, die, and rise again so that we can be careless regarding sin, no matter how insignificant we may think they are. In fact, we see another connection at the end of the verse that should cause us to recall the words of Jesus: “And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free” (John 8:32). Now, catch the words right before these most quoted words: “If ye continue in my word, [then] are ye my disciples indeed” (John 8:31). It is not a knowledge of the truth that makes one free, at liberty, pulled out of captivity, but it is those that continue to obey, to live according to God’s Word.

Now, back on Luke 4:18 for a moment, the words are stated as, “The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised.” Sin bruises. And “sin is the transgression of the law” (1 John 3:4). Therefore, as the commandments are broken, we are being bruised and are being brought into captivity of which Jesus is trying to set us free, relieve us of its burdens.

When a person lies, it bruises the other person because he is losing out on what the truth would have revealed. Additionally, the liar is bruised because he now has the extra burden of making sure the lie does not get out.

When a person steals, the one who the person stole from is now bruised in that he either must do without the stolen object, or has to spend his money again to replace it. The thief is bruised because he has to make sure the knowledge of the theft does not get out, among other bruises.

When angry words, hurtful actions, or even outright killing happens, obviously the victim is bruised mentally, physically, or even both, or has even lost his life. The one who did those things has become bruised because the relationship becomes broken, and possibly severe consequences must be faced.

And Jesus confirms that we are on the right track: “They answered him, We be Abraham’s seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin” (John 8:33-34). Sin or the transgression (breaking) of any of God’s commandments, even in the slightest, is not liberating, but bondage and captivity to Satan. That is what we need to be set free from.

In fact, here is a parable on just that... Matthew 12:29 states, “Or else how can one enter into a strong man’s house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.” The strong man is Satan. His goods are all souls held in bondage to sin. The person binding Satan is Jesus, Who came to set the captives free.

Romans 8:21 expands upon this theme of breaking the commandments actually bruises and brings people into captivity,

even into bondage. “Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.” As we break the commandments, that action creates corruption. The mind is corrupted more and more as it witnesses, or views, that which is sinful. The body is corrupted when it partakes in those things that are sinful as well. Mental and physical corruption occurs when people think a certain activity is part of dating and then move on to another partner. We even corrupt ourselves by breaking the relationship with God in ignoring the first four commandments and not following them as He said to do them.

Cain got in trouble for making slight adjustments in that area. Did Cain have an altar? Yes. Did he make an offering? Yes. Did he try to worship the true God? Yes. Was it an animal sacrifice? No. So, likewise, we ought to be very careful about altering those first four commandments and truly “deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me” (Matthew 16:24). To follow Jesus is to obey Him.

According to 2 Corinthians 3:17-18, we are at liberty more and more as we change from our sinful nature into the divine nature: “Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord [is], there [is] liberty. But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, are changed into the same image from glory to glory, [even] as by the Spirit of the Lord.” In fact, to accomplish this change of nature, divine power is granted to us: “According as his divine power hath given unto us all things

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Editor and Founder

Jerry O'Donnell

About Have One Mind (in Christ) Ministry

This ministry is founded upon the necessity of raising the standard higher and higher. It is a non-profit, volunteer group of Christians who love God's Word and love people so much so that we do not want to see a single person lost.

Subscription and Donations

Although we are volunteers, the cost of this publication is challenging to provide to everyone for free. So, we are asking for a subscription of \$19 annually for 12 issues, and if the Lord impresses you with the means to be able to provide a donation, we definitely would welcome such and put it to proper use, including helping to pay for subscriptions of those who cannot afford the cost. The publication is free online in PDF format.

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that [pertain] unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of him that hath called us to glory and virtue: Whereby are given unto us exceeding great and precious promises: that by these ye might be partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust" (2 Peter 1:3-4). So, what the world offers us as mental and physical degradation, we can escape from it, be at liberty, be set free from it by turning from the participation of those things, like alcohol, entertainment, gluttony, foods that are body-destroying, and more.

Taken properly, we can also see upholding the Ten Commandments is liberating in the Book of Galatians. "For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only [use] not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, [even] in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Galatians 5:13-14). Taking the words "Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself", we end up hearing Jesus saying the similar words, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second [is] like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself" (Matthew 22:37-39). So, either Paul is feeding up Jesus' words to us or these are two separate statements inspired of God saying the same thing; but either way, they are saying to love our neighbors as ourselves. Now, listen to what Jesus said next, "On these two commandments hang all the law

and the prophets" (Matthew 22:40). The two commandments are not left to us to vaguely figure out how to love God and love our neighbor. Jesus basically said that the Ten Commandments are a summary of the two tables of commandments. To love God is to keep the first four commandments while to love our neighbor is the keeping of the last six commandments. And in so doing, we have liberty of fellowship and we are not bound in guilt as we approach God and approach our neighbors.

Now James 1:25 tells us that liberty is guided by doing the law: "But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth [therein], he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed." In fact, the law itself, as we do it or keep it, is liberating because we are not liberated from obedience, but we are liberated from sinning.

And just in case we may wonder what law James is referring to, we are told in James 2:10-12, "For whosoever shall keep the whole law, and yet offend in one [point], he is guilty of all. For he that said, Do not commit adultery, said also, Do not kill. Now if thou commit no adultery, yet if thou kill, thou art become a transgressor of the law. So speak ye, and so do, as they that shall be judged by the law of liberty." It is clearly the law that contains forbiddance from killing and committing adultery which points to the Ten Commandments. So, the Ten Commandments themselves are even called the Law of Liberty. Instead of thinking a person is liberated to do whatever they please, the Bible is

trying to teach us that we are liberated from the effects of sin by ceasing such activity.

And so, all the ministers that are nailing the Ten Commandments to the cross, claiming that people are under grace and somehow that causes the requirements of keeping the commandments to cease, encouraging people to walk by faith and commandment keeping is not of faith, that the Ten Commandments are legalistic, that they are Jewish, that they bring people into bondage, and every other excuse used by twisting the meaning of verses in the Bible, they are aiding and abating the captivity of sin and the consequence thereof. "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage. For if after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, they are again entangled therein, and overcome, the latter end is worse with them than the beginning. For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known [it], to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them" (2 Peter 2:19-21).

So, will you continue to listen to your preacher promising great liberty and salvation while he is discouraging obedience in keeping the commandments, or will you see that true liberation is found only in obedience to the commandments and keeping of His Word?



Heavenly Health

Can Guilt Make a Person Physically Sick?

To answer this question let us take a look at the meaning and purpose of guilt – yes, guilt does have a purpose, but guilt is quite a heavy burden, and is one we were never expected to, or designed to, carry. In Webster's 1828 Dictionary there is actually a term called "guilt-sick" with the meaning being, "Diseased in consequence of guilt", but an actual definition of just guilt as a feeling or an emotion is not available there, only the criminal usage, so my hope is these people who deal with such things might be able to help clarify the definition, even though we are all too familiar with the feeling.

From an online article entitled **What Is Guilt, According to Psychologists?**: "Guilt is generally defined as a self-conscious, negative feeling over wrongdoing," says Tina Malti, PhD, a professor of psychology and the director of the laboratory for social-emotional development and intervention at the University of Toronto in Mississauga, who researches guilt.

"Shame is also a negative, self-conscious feeling, but it stems from being seen as lesser in the eyes of one's peers or society at large," Dr. Malti says. We feel guilty when we have devalued others, whereas we feel shame about the possibility of others devaluing us.

Jennifer Ho, PsyD, a California-based clinical psychologist,

explains another difference between the two. Guilt, she says, is a feeling about an action you did that you think was wrong — a behavior that doesn't necessarily reflect who you are on the whole. Shame is "a sense that you as a person are wrong," she says.

That sounds very much like Webster's term – guilt-sick, which clearly explains in itself that along with guilt comes disease. So, it seems that guilt and shame are bosom buddies, both carrying tremendous weight that is surely hindering our walk with Christ. The trap that we almost always get into with guilt, which actually brings on the shame, is that most of the time we want our offense, or sin, to remain in the dark, so we cover up one sin with another and another, until we are in a convoluted mess, as Sir Walter Scott succinctly stated in his writings, "Oh what a tangled web we weave, when first we practice to deceive." Remember Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden after they had committed sin, they actually tried to hide from God, to deceive Him, and humanity is still doing the same thing today, many times en-mass which not only damages individuals, but can, and does, eventually take down entire civilizations rife with complete disregard for the law; all brought about by degraded humanity in bondage to their own unconfessed sin.

Lying seems to be at the root of most guilt, and there is simply nothing good to say about lying. Proverbs 12:22 states, "Lying lips [are] abomination to the LORD:"

What we fail to realize in this conundrum is that not depending on the only One who can save us is simply unbelief, and cherished unbelief brings worry to the soul; when we worry we are actually denying the power of Christ. This is a serious offense. Matthew 10:33 tells us that if we deny Him, "him will I also deny before my Father which is in heaven." The only way to lift this burden of guilt from our souls is to give it to Jesus – He died to take all of our burdens away so we can have health and vital force. He, Who is fully able, is our burden bearer.

The purpose of guilt and its remedy are rolled into one package. Guilt is not to make us run and hide in shame, its purpose is to bring us to repentance, to free us of that burden of sin so we can be whole again; when sin threatens to take over the mastery of your soul, and burdens the conscience, turn to the only One who can help. We are no different than the sick man lying on his mat at the pool at Bethesda, our guilt from sin has made us physically sick and too paralyzed to help ourselves. We have to reach up, up from this world of Satan's and grasp the hand of Jesus in His realm for complete healing.

The first stanza of the hymn, He touched Me, written by Bill Gaither many years ago pretty much says it all:

Shackled by a heavy burden,
'Neath a load of guilt and shame.
Then the hand of Jesus touched me,

And now I am no longer the same. Guilt and shame shackle us. Let us turn from anything that causes dis

-ease in our bodies. If we are bringing sickness or burdens of any kind upon ourselves, then we are disobeying God, but obeying

Satan, whose goal is to destroy God's people.



Healthy and Delicious Recipes

Cool Summer Cucumber Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 English cucumber (approximately 4 cups sliced)
- ¼ thinly sliced red onion
- 3 tbsp chopped fresh dill
- ¼ cup vegan sour cream
- 3 tbsp lemon juice
- ½ tsp salt

Instructions:

1. Mix cucumber and ½ tsp of salt and put in a colander for 15-30 minutes. Discard any water that is collected
2. Mix dill, vegan sour cream, lemon juice and salt.
3. Add the cucumber and red onion mixing well.

Note:

Salad will keep 4-5 days.

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“Cattle know when to go home from grazing, but a foolish man never knows his stomach's measures.”—Scandinavian proverb.



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Be Ye Holy — 1 Peter 1:15

Acts 5:32 clearly teaches that the Holy Ghost only comes to those who obey God, which is the expected sanctified and holy life. “And we are his witnesses of these things; and [so is] also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.” Therefore, anyone claiming to have the gift of tongues or saying they are led by the Holy Spirit while living in disobedience are liars. So, do you live in obedience to God, specifically to “obey the commandments of the LORD your God” (Deuteronomy 11:27), or are you lying?

Ephesians 4:1-3 lays out the

expected holy and sanctified life by stating, “I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, With all lowliness and meekness, with longsuffering, forbearing one another in love; Endeavouring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” The one thing that breaks unity greater than anything else is sin, but being told to “walk worthy of the vocation” is just like this scripture, “I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 3:14). We have a higher standard of living now that we are Christians. We are not to walk with, nor are we called to

fit in with, the world, in fact, it is “because they are not of the world, even as I am not of the world” (John 17:14). The notion that Christians are to go to the same movies, hang out at the same clubs, eat and drink as the unconverted, be into the same music, dress in the same worldly outfits, etc., all to get closer to the people for witnessing purposes is of Satan. Jesus never did that. In fact, for the number of times people say that Jesus drew people unto Himself and was popular, it can be equally shown that when He got specific about cutting things out of lives, the people dispersed instead. So, are you

fitting into the world where Satan has dimmed your light in which no one can tell if you are a Christian or not, or have you walked worthy of being called a Christian by the power and grace of God?

1 Thessalonians 3:13 says, "To the end he may stablish your hearts unblameable in holiness before God, even our Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ with all his saints." Being established in the heart unblameable in holiness is the holy and sanctified life. Unblameable means that there is nothing that can be pointed at regarding active sinning. So, are you established in the heart in this manner, or does your heart allow you to enjoy the ways of the world contrary to God's ways?

2 Thessalonians 2:15 says, "Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle." The "traditions" spoken of here are not man-made, as Jesus said, "For laying aside the commandment of God, ye hold the tradition of men..." (Mark 7:8). "Full well ye reject the commandment of God, that ye may keep your own tradition" (Mark 7:9). "Making the word of God of none effect through your tradition..." (Mark 7:13). Therefore, the traditions to be kept are God's commandments and His Word as stated in teachings (word) or writings (epistle), which come to us now in the form of the Bible. We are to stand fast and not compromise. With God, there is no meeting people half-way. When we are in conflict over the Word and His

commandments with those that are of the world, the expectation is that they completely give up their idea and conform to the Word and Commandments, which is the holy and sanctified life. We are to hold to them. If we do not, the opposite does not have to be explicitly stated, but Jesus did say, "He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings: and the word which ye hear is not mine" (John 14:24), and if we do not love Him, we are lost. So, do you hold and stand fast to God's Word and His Commandments, or have you excused them away because you think they have no impact on eternal life?

1 Timothy 2:8 refers to having "holy hands": "I will therefore that men pray every where, lifting up holy hands, without wrath and doubting." Keep in mind, "He that turneth away his ear from hearing the law, even his prayer [shall be] abomination" (Proverbs 28:9). Therefore, to have holy hands is not the proper use of soap or special water to clean them. It is that we do not handle sin but rather handle obedience, especially towards God's commandments. Therefore, "holy hands" is that living of a holy and sanctified life. Now, do you have holy hands or filthy hands?

2 Timothy 2:15-16 commands that we "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. But shun profane [and] vain babblings: for they will increase unto more ungodliness." If we do not do as commanded, we will not be approved of God and therefore

will not go to Heaven. Take note to the contrast. If we are to shun all things that lead to ungodliness, like, dismissing the Ten Commandments, dismissing the Word of God, which most Christians do in one form or another, that means that on the other side, we are to be studying God's Word that leads to godly living. That is the holy and sanctified life. We study and apply God's Word not to be saved, but if one really loves God, it will be automatic that we study out what it means to be a Christian, a godly person, and do it. There is no earning Heaven, but we are to "Follow peace with all [men], and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14). So, how much time each day do you give to studying God's word to form a godly, holy, sanctified character?

Although Titus 2:6-8 is directed to young men they are not to forget it when they are old. And just because it is directed to men doesn't mean it is not applicable to women. The expected holy and sanctified life of a Christian is defined here as, "Young men likewise exhort to be sober minded. In all things shewing thyself a pattern of good works: in doctrine [shewing] uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity, Sound speech, that cannot be condemned; that he that is of the contrary part may be ashamed, having no evil thing to say of you." Therefore, to dwell on thoughts of sin and worldliness, intermingling a little sin here and there, tossing away doctrines, joking around, being careless in speaking, and practicing sins so obvious that people are able to point them out, is the opposite of

a Christian character. So, do you have a Christian character, or the character of the world? Do you have the image of God, or the image of the world?

Hebrews 4:14-16 states the balance between what is called works and grace. "Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast [our] profession. For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as [we are, yet] without sin. Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need." Holding fast to our profession is the holy and sanctified life. If we live a life different from what we profess, we are not holding fast. We are just mouthing words. And to make sure we understand the meaning of verse 14, Paul writes that Jesus was tempted just like we are where He set the example and did not give in to sinning, therefore, since "To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me in my throne, even as I also overcame" (Revelation 3:21), and "He that

saith he abideth in him ought himself also so to walk, even as he walked" (1 John 2:6), then we shall "Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you" (James 4:7).

However, "My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous" (1 John 2:1) which Hebrews 4:16 alludes to. So, are you abiding, which is holding fast to the profession, by living a Christian life, or are you all talk and concern yourself nothing about temptation, thinking that Jesus paid it all so we can just walk right into Heaven carelessly sinning?

1 Peter 1:23 says, "Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever." To be saved is to be born again, for "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God" (John 3:3). Born again is not of feeling, which is easily influenced, hence, it is considered corruptible. We are born again by the Word of God, which Jesus said, "Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth" (John 17:17). The Word, the born again

experience, is a holy and sanctified experience. A truly born again person will live according to God's Word. Do you?

2 Peter 2:19 says, "While they promise them liberty, they themselves are the servants of corruption: for of whom a man is overcome, of the same is he brought in bondage." In direct example of today, so many preachers teach that the Ten Commandments were nailed to the cross that all one needs to do is believe in Jesus, that grace is all we need for Heaven, and just live by faith while forgetting the requirement of obedience after one is justified. That is the liberty that is promised to the congregation, and that is wrong. They are preachers of corruption, of sinning. And every time a person gives in to sinning, they are in Satan's bondage, for the Bible says, "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free. They answered him, We be Abraham's seed, and were never in bondage to any man: how sayest thou, Ye shall be made free? Jesus answered them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin" (John 8:32-34). We are to be

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free from sinning, otherwise, it is bondage, even being a servant of sin. Being made free from sin is the expected holy and sanctified life. So, are you still bound in sin while claiming to be saved, or are you free from sinning?

Jude 1:23 says, "And others save with fear, pulling [them] out of the fire; hating even the garment spotted by the flesh." To have the hatred about our garments being spotted by the flesh is the holy and sanctified life, where we are to "be found of him in peace, without spot, and blameless" (2 Peter 3:14) "that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be


holy and without blemish" (Ephesians 5:27). Basically, the world is full of selfish gratifications that a true Christian will not indulge in despite our bodies, the flesh, craving in one form or another. Are you one of those true Christians, or just one that claims the name?

Revelation 3:2 says, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God." Elsewhere, Jesus said, "Watch and pray, that ye enter not into temptation: the spirit indeed [is] willing, but the flesh [is] weak" (Matthew 26:41). And then Paul wrote, "[There is] therefore now no condemnation

to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit" (Romans 8:1). Therefore, if we walk after the flesh instead of the Spirit, then there is condemnation, and that is what we have to be constantly watchful against, for the devil will continuously tempt us to do just that. Though the devil cannot pull us out of God's hand, we can become careless and accept the temptation and participate in the fleshly desire, leaving God's protection, and then fall. So, that means that the "watchful" part is the holy and sanctified life. Are you being watchful?



Who Is the Real Antichrist?



Who Is the Real Antichrist?

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Study to Shew Thyself Approved Unto God—(2 Timothy 2:15)

Did Jesus Say to Eat That?

1. What did Jesus say we were to eat? **John 6:54**
2. What did Jesus switch to telling us to eat? **John 6:58**
3. What is connected with that object? **Matthew 4:4**
4. What was made flesh? **John 1:14**
5. What did Jesus say we would have if we ate His flesh? **John 6:54**
6. What did Jesus say we would be able to do if we ate the bread? **John 6:58**
7. What will we get to do if we retain God's Word? **Proverbs 4:4**
8. Spiritually speaking, what did these people do with God's Word? **Jeremiah 15:16,**

Revelation 10:9-10

9. What do we show towards God if we live according to His Word? **John 14:23**
10. When we do **not** live according to God's Word, what does that show God? **John 14:24**

June 2024 Bible Study

What Is Truth?

1. Who asked that question (What is truth?)?
John 18:38 "Pilate"
2. What is the truth to do for us?
John 8:32 "make you free"
3. What is the Holy Spirit's role with the truth?
John 16:13 "guide"
4. Having the truth is part of having what else?
Ephesians 5:9 "fruit of the Spirit"

5. What is the truth to do to us?

John 17:17 "Sanctify"

6. What do we have to be careful when using the Word of Truth, the Bible?

2 Timothy 2:15 "rightly dividing" [meaning that there is a right way and wrong ways to study the Bible]

7. What happens if we do not care about having truth and just claim to be saved without it?

2 Thessalonians 2:12-13 "damned"

8. But what is the desire of God?

1 Timothy 2:4 "be saved" and "come unto the knowledge of the truth"

9. But with the chant that "nobody has the truth", what are such people turned to instead?

2 Timothy 4:4 "fables"

10. What is associated with having the truth that so many Christians disregard?

1 John 2:4 "commandments"



Questions & Answers

QUESTION: Although there is forgiveness, when people just do not get along, are we forced to be in each other's company?

ANSWER: In most of those situations, there is something disagreeable and clashing with another person though not be sinful. Both may be the best Christians a person can be, and in fact, both may even be blameless in the eyes of God but still not get along.

Jesus Himself "called unto [him] his twelve disciples" (Matthew 10:1), keeping in mind that one of them would betray Him (Luke 6:16). Do realize, that "the Lord appointed other seventy also" (Luke 10:1), yet these seventy remain closer to Jesus than all the other believers. Even of them, "Jesus taketh [with him] Peter, and James, and John" (Mark 9:2). Still further yet, Jesus had a closer relationship with John of whom He trusted His mother with: "Then saith he to the disciple, Behold thy mother! And from that hour that disciple took her unto his own [home]" (John 19:27). For whatever reason, sometimes personalities do clash.

In the case of Jesus, He did not invite all seventy or others to enlarge the core of twelve disciples. He also favored the home of Lazarus, Mary, and Martha (Luke 10:38-42) over other people's homes to be refreshed. However, Jesus did not keep his distance from Judas despite being the traitor and Jesus knowing it. He always looked for that opportunity to reach the soul.

Keep in mind that Jesus did pray, "Neither pray I for these alone, but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, [art] in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me" (John 17:20-21). This seems to point out that mere toleration of one another instead of pressing together is not in the best interest of fulfilling this verse.

But there is something to being incompatible in a personality way. One person may be very talkative while another is not. One person may be very outgoing while another is not. One person may be at a higher level of understanding in which a person in

the faith for more than fifty years is going to know a whole lot more than a person in the church for a year or two. This level of knowledge difference can be challenging to navigate.

In general, if we have no animosity towards another and they have no animosity towards us, then some times, like in the case of Mark and Paul, a separation is necessary, hopefully for the allowance of time to make things right. "And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, [and see] how they do. And Barnabas determined to take with them John, whose surname was Mark. But Paul thought not good to take him with them, who departed from them from Pamphylia, and went not with them to the work. And the contention was so sharp between them, that they departed asunder one from the other: and so Barnabas took Mark, and sailed unto Cyprus; And Paul chose Silas, and departed, being recommended by the brethren unto the grace of God. And he went through Syria and Cilicia, confirming the churches" (Acts 15:36-41).

The goal is to be unified, but non-sinful reasons to separate may still come up and there is nothing wrong with keeping the distance so as to keep the peace before sin does enter, especially when issues get sharp, as long as there is an allowance for future opportunity to try again.

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QUESTION: All the suffering that I am personally going through in all aspects of life as I age, is there a purpose? And please do not tell me that it is character growth.

ANSWER: So, we shall not point towards character growth, but we shall point you to 2 Corinthians 4:6, which says "For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to [give] the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

Basically, not everything is for our learning and growth. Many times, others watch to see how we conduct ourselves while people are fully aware of what faith we profess. "Ye [are] my witnesses, saith the LORD, and my servant whom I have chosen: that ye may know and believe me, and understand that I [am] he: before

me there was no God formed, neither shall there be after me" (Isaiah 43:10).

So, ask yourself what the nurses and other staff members are observing. Through much pain and suffering, am I glorifying God or am I so focused within that I do not care how my witness is?

QUESTION: After creating man in Genesis 1, what is meant by "not a man to till the ground" in Genesis 2?

Genesis 2:5 states, "And every plant of the field before it was in the earth, and every herb of the field before it grew: for the LORD God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and [there was] not a man to till the ground."

The focus is not to be placed upon the man existing, but rather upon

the activity to be performed. Sure, "God created man in his [own] image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them" (Genesis 1:27), but before sin, there was no need to till the ground. That does not come in until after the fall of mankind into sin. Genesis 3:19 states, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, till thou return unto the ground; for out of it wast thou taken: for dust thou [art], and unto dust shalt thou return." And Genesis 3:23 explicitly tells us "Therefore the LORD God sent him forth from the garden of Eden, to till the ground from whence he was taken".

Overall, it was Moses' way, the writer of Genesis, to state that sin had not yet entered into this world when reading Genesis 2.



News and Comments

May 23—Yahoo Life

Stop Calling Her Your "Work Wife"

Genesis 2:24 states, "Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh." As in another article, the use of wife, in this case, cheapens, downgrades, makes insignificant the true meaning. Likewise, a "work husband" would do the same thing. Only the one that actually becomes the wife through marriage is the spouse. To do anything more is to break down the barriers set in place, lessons

the importance of the title, etc.

June 2—NBC

Male birth control gel is safe and effective, new trial findings show

Who determines pharmaceutical creations safe? The listed side effects include: "Irritability, Nightmares, Decreased libido, Increased appetite, Mood swings, and Asthma exacerbation." And "Subjects gained weight in all three groups. Five men discontinued because of adverse events." These quotes by the National Institute on Health. It is

not only this drug but others. Want to lose weight? Pop this pill but the side effects are "even possible death". Want to deal with shingles ..., want to deal with this or that ailment? The short of it is, "Thou shalt not kill" (Exodus 20:13) includes self harm in any manner. Risking one's life or even the mind is something we shall be held responsible for. Irritability, including lashing out upon innocent people is a sin. Being moody and negatively impacting those around is a sin. Gluttony is a sin. Yet, the government says it is safe. Sure, there is no risk of dying in this case so that makes it safe,

but there is a risk of losing eternal life! That is not safe.

June 17—Popular Mechanics

A Scientist Says Humans Are Rapidly Approaching Singularity—and Plausible Immortality

Satan will stop at nothing to undo the punishment for sin: "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:17).

June 20—BBC

Louisiana orders every classroom

to display Ten Commandments

Posting the Ten Commandments is good when the Bible says, "thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children, and shalt talk of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, and when thou liest down, and when thou risest up" (Deuteronomy 6:7), but when it is forced upon the public, it crosses the line, but then again, that is the predicted future (second half of Revelation 13).

June 27—Independent

Oklahoma 'immediately' requires schools to teach the Bible: 'Strict compliance is expected'

This is like the Ten Commandments mandate article. Should everyone study the Bible? Yes. Should they be forced to? No. A relationship with God is by invitation. "Come unto me, all [ye] that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). Instead, this is the expected church and state unification coming that is spoken in Revelation 13:11: "And I beheld another beast coming up out of the earth; and he had two horns like a lamb, and he spake as a dragon." Christlike principles to start with but makes laws that are satanic, which is forceful.



How Much Do You Trust in God?

Psalms 34:22 The LORD redeemeth the soul of his servants: and none of them that trust in him shall be desolate.

Psalms 36:7 How excellent [is] thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings.

Psalms 37:3-5 Trust in the LORD, and do good; [so] shalt thou dwell in the land, and verily thou shalt be fed. Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart. Commit thy way unto the LORD; trust also in him; and he shall bring [it] to pass.

Psalms 37:40 And the LORD shall help them, and deliver them: he shall deliver them from the wicked, and save them, because they trust in him.

Psalms 40:3-4 And he hath put a new song in my mouth, [even] praise unto our God: many shall see [it], and fear, and shall trust in the LORD. Blessed [is] that man that maketh the LORD his trust, and respecteth not the proud, nor such as turn aside to lies.

Psalms 52:8 But I [am] like a green olive tree in the house of God: I trust in the mercy of God for ever and ever.

Psalms 56:3-4 What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise his word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me.

Psalms 56:11 In God have I put my trust: I will not be afraid what man can do unto me.

Psalms 61:4 I will abide in thy tabernacle for ever: I will trust in the covert of thy wings. Selah.

Psalms 62:8 Trust in him at all times; [ye] people, pour out your heart before him: God [is] a refuge for us. Selah.

Psalms 64:10 The righteous shall be glad in the LORD, and shall trust in him; and all the upright in heart shall glory.

Psalms 71:1 In thee, O LORD, do I put my trust: let me never be put to confusion.

Psalms 71:5 For thou [art] my hope, O Lord GOD: [thou art] my trust from my youth.

Psalms 73:28 But [it is] good for me to draw near to God: I have put my trust in the Lord GOD, that I may declare all thy works.

Psalms 91:2-4 I will say of the LORD, [He is] my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Surely he shall deliver thee from the snare of the fowler, [and] from the noisome pestilence. He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth [shall be thy] shield and buckler.

Psalms 115:11 Ye that fear the LORD, trust in the LORD: he [is] their help and their shield.

Psalms 118:8 [It is] better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in man.

Psalms 118:9 [It is] better to trust in the LORD than to put confidence in princes.

Psalms 125:1 A Song of degrees. They that trust in the LORD [shall

be] as mount Zion, [which] cannot be removed, [but] abideth for ever.

Psalms 141:8 But mine eyes [are] unto thee, O GOD the Lord: in thee is my trust; leave not my soul destitute.

Psalms 143:8 Cause me to hear thy lovingkindness in the morning; for in thee do I trust: cause me to know the way wherein I should walk; for I lift up my soul unto thee.

Psalms 144:1-2 [A Psalm] of David. Blessed [be] the LORD my strength, which teacheth my hands to war, [and] my fingers to fight: My goodness, and my fortress; my high tower, and my deliverer; my shield, and [he] in whom I trust; who subdueth my people under me.

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

Proverbs 28:25 He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife: but he that putteth his trust in the LORD shall be made fat.

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man bringeth a snare: but whoso putteth his trust in the LORD shall be safe.

Proverbs 30:5 Every word of God [is] pure: he [is] a shield unto them that put their trust in him.

Isaiah 12:2 Behold, God [is] my salvation; I will trust, and not be afraid: for the LORD JEHOVAH [is] my strength and [my] song; he also is become my salvation.

Isaiah 26:4 Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH [is] everlasting strength

Isaiah 50:10 Who [is] among you that feareth the LORD, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh [in] darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the LORD, and stay upon his God.

Jeremiah 39:18 For I will surely deliver thee, and thou shalt not fall by the sword, but thy life shall be for a prey unto thee: because thou hast put thy trust in me, saith the LORD.

Nahum 1:7 The LORD [is] good, a strong hold in the day of trouble; and he knoweth them that trust in him.

2 Corinthians 1:9 But we had the sentence of death in ourselves, that we should not trust in ourselves, but in God which raiseth the dead

1 Timothy 4:10 For therefore we both labour and suffer reproach, because we trust in the living God, who is the Saviour of all men, specially of those that believe.



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