

Living In Peace

Denver Thomas

Living the life expected of a Christian requires a great deal of watchfulness and self-control each and every day. The Apostle Paul wrote, “**If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men**” (Rom. 12:18). When one considers the conditional statement, “If it be possible,” it can be understood that either of two conditions will surely exist —possible or impossible —which suggests that it may **not** always be possible to be at peace with someone no matter how hard one may strive.

Society, in general, is composed of what one might consider all **sorts** of people —some good, some not so good and some indifferent. It may be impossible to be at peace with some because of their attitude or their general behavior. For example, it is **not** possible to be at peace with boasters, cheaters, foul mouths, gossipers, liars, robbers, murderers and such like, as they are not to be trusted in their dealings with others.

While that is of a considerable concern, what can be **said** with regard to those within the brotherhood? In First Corinthians 5:11, the Apostle Paul wrote, “But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.” It is **not** possible to be at peace with a brother or sister who fails to maintain daily righteous living; otherwise one may be led astray by association. Paul warned, “Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners” (1 Cor. 15:33). It is extremely difficult to walk through briars and not get scratched.

The Apostle Paul wrote, “Now I beseech you, brethren, mark them which cause divisions and offences contrary to the doctrine which ye have learned; and avoid them” (Rom. 16:17). In recent times, it has been observed that there are those who have taken great liberty with God’s word. For them, it seems the Bible is just not sufficient so they advance new ideas, new requirements and new practices that simply **cannot** be supported with Book, Chapter and Verse or in other words, Command, Approved Example or Necessary Inference. Today, we read of instances of women taking leading roles in worship activities, communion being offered on Saturdays, mechanical instruments added to accompany singing and the list goes on and on.

The Apostle Paul warned the young preacher Timothy, “Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee” (1 Tim. 4:16). **The writer of Hebrews wrote**: “Be not carried about with divers and strange doctrines. For it is a good thing that the heart be established with grace; not with meats, which have not profited them that have been occupied therein” (Heb. 13:9).

There are **some things** one can do in hopes of improving relationships. Jesus said, “Ye have heard that it hath been said, Thou shalt love thy neighbour, and hate thine enemy. But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you; That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust. For if ye love them which love you, what reward have ye? do not even the publicans the same” (Matt. 5:43-46)?

Let’s **be at peace** with one another, but remember that the **only peace** that is approved of God is that which is in **accordance** to his eternal Word. Those who adhere to his Word have peace with each other.

Satan’s Grand Lie

Jesus called Satan “a murderer from the beginning” and the father of liars (John 8:44). He referred to the incident recorded in Genesis 3 when Satan deceived the woman. There are some important lessons for us in this tragic story.

Satan focused on the prohibition instead of the provision (Genesis 3:1). He subtly got her to focus on the only fruit in the garden she could not eat. Today, there are those who whine because of what they do not have.

We need to focus on giving thanks instead (1 Thessalonians 5:18). After all, God has given us the greatest possible gift (2 Corinthians 9:15; Romans 8:32). Satan denied the reality of the curse of death (Genesis 3:4). The father of lies called God the Father a liar (Genesis 2:17). Some live today as if there were no death, much like the rich man in Jesus’ parable (Luke 12:16-21). Everyone needs to realize that even with the great advances in medicine, each has an appointment with death (Hebrews 9:27).

Satan denied God’s loving kindness by saying God denied man access to something good (Genesis 3:5). We need to recognize God is good and the source of every good gift (Psalm 136:1; James 1:17). God and His Word have been charged with being anti-woman when He actually made her the crowning act of creation (Genesis 2:22-23). The virtuous wife is praised, and husbands are commanded to love their wives in the strongest of terms (Proverbs 31:10; Ephesians 5:25-28).

Satan said man could set his own law by telling him “you will be like God” (Genesis 3:5b). Some would have us believe we can set our own path to salvation. Jesus said we must do the will of the Father (Matthew 7:21). Paul said God no longer will overlook ignorance, He but insists that all repent (Acts 17:30). The way to the new life is through being buried with Christ in baptism and raised to live a new life (Romans 6:3-4).

Ignore Satan’s lies. Live each day according to God’s will, knowing that is the path to entering Heaven.

(copied from Northside church of Christ Bulletin, Calhoun, GA.)

NEWS AND NOTES

“I was sick, and ye visited me...” (Matthew 25:36)
Remember in Prayer:

Miles Dodson, Patti and Jerry’s grandson is in Baptist Hospital in Memphis after surgery.
Sharon Wallace will be seeing her cancer doctor March 10. Please keep her in your prayers.
Linda Baker fell and broke her leg. She is in Encompass for rehabilitation room 201 – D.
Myra Preston is now at home with Home Health Care. Continuing To need our prayers.
Tim Johnson is now home.
Marie Sharp, Lanafae Stephens’ mother, has returned to Ridgecrest and will be in isolation for 14 days (as standard procedure after returning).
Marshall Lands had outpatient surgery on Thursday.
Bryson Miller, the great nephew of James and Sandra Johnson was in a serious accident and is in the Elvis Presley Trauma Center in Memphis is serious condition.

In Other News:

There will be a memorial service in memory of **Darlene Felts** after services this morning. At the time of her passing in December, we were not able to have a service honoring her. Everyone is welcomed to stay.

REMEMBER: Daylight Savings Time will begin March 14th. Remember to “Spring ahead” one hour.
Gilbert Gough will be with us for a **“Day of Exhortation”** March 28. There will be a potluck after morning services. Everyone is encouraged to be present and enjoy this good day together.

Bible Classes resumed today with modified classes. The 2 years old thru 2nd grade are meeting in North end classroom and the 3rd-6th grades are meeting in the South classroom with teens resuming in their classroom.

Presently we have no members we are aware of who are either directly or indirectly affected by the Covid-19 Virus.

Those Privileged To Serve
March 7, 2021

NUMBERS FOR THE WEEK
Week Of
February 28, 2021

SUNDAY MORNING
 Song Leader: Ben Johns
 Opening Prayer: Logan Snyder
 Closing Prayer: David Loggins
 Bible Reading: Stan Honeycutt
 Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

SUNDAY EVENING
 Song Leader: Kevin Roush
 Opening Prayer: Jimmy Powell
 Closing Prayer: Reginald Read
 Preacher: Terry Joe Kee

LORD’S TABLE
 Presiding: Scottie Blanchard
 Hal Baugh J. L. May
 Mitch Mosley Ryan Manley
 Jack Johnson Scott Pratt

WEDNESDAY NIGHT
March 10, 2021
 Song Leader: Randy Oden
 Opening Prayer: Barry Roush
 Closing Prayer: Dan Nichols

ANNOUNCEMENTS
 Randy Oden

DEVOTIONAL SPEAKER
March 10, 2021
 Terry Joe Kee

Sunday Bible Study	62
Sunday AM Worship	94
Sunday PM Worship	72
Wednesday Bible Study	71
Contribution	\$5398

“He that hath a bountiful eye shall be blessed; for he giveth of his bread to the poor.”
Proverbs 22:9

The Friend of Truth



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“Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth?” (Galatians 4:16)

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KeeNotes

If you have not already welcomed the Wallaces please look for them today and welcome them into our fellowship. Sharon and George have been worshipping with us these past few weeks and want to be identified with the church here. Sharon was recently restored and she will be returning to see her doctor this week after having surgery recently. Welcome her and George and be praying for good news from her doctor Wednesday (March 10).

The new directories will be ready shortly. Hopefully, everyone has made all the needed corrections during the past several weeks and everything for the present will be correct. Within a few days everything will again need to be updated, but maybe for the present it will be mostly right. When you pick up your copy and if you find anything that needs to be corrected please let me know as soon as possible.

This year will be much different than in years past. The elders have determined that due to this past year being so confining that we all need encouragement and edification. Therefore, rather than having a weeklong gospel meeting like we have commonly done (and will do again), this year we are going to have four Sunday meetings with special preachers and special preaching. The intent of all these will be to build us up and encourage us all to make 2021 a great year for the church at Greensboro Road. March 28, brother Gilbert Gough will be with us for the first of this series of sermons. We are planning a potluck after services that morning and a great day of preaching, edification and strengthening. Be praying fervently.

SHEPHERDS

Dan Nichols
 Randy Oden

DEACONS

Scottie Blanchard
 Jerry Dodson
 Stacy Eddleman
 Mike Felts
 Jason Garland
 Scott Pratt
 Kevin Roush
 Mark Wooten

MISSIONARIES

Guyana, South America
 Samrit Kammanee
 Micah Robertson, Montana
 Warren, PA

SERVICES

SUNDAY

Classes 9:00 a.m.
 Worship 10:00 a.m.
 5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

Hear the Word of God
Romans 10:17
Believe the Word of God
John 8:24
Repent of your sins
Luke 13:3
Confess your faith in Jesus as the Son of God
Romans 10:9,10
Be Baptized for the remission of your sins
Acts 2:38
Live faithfully
Revelation 2:10
“Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.” (John 4:35)

Each One Invite One in Twenty-One