

F. Y. C.

For Your Consideration

❖ MARCH 2019 ❖

For the Moment

Two passages in Hebrews 12 bring out two timeless lessons.

Hebrews 12:11

Discipline

All discipline for the moment seems not to be joyful, but sorrowful; yet to those who have been trained by it, afterwards it yields the peaceful fruit of righteousness.

The cost of discipline is always less than the cost of being undisciplined.

Discipline, when properly accepted, produces desirable results. It may not be enjoyable, but it is profitable. Discipline involves more than correction. It includes instruction, training, and nurturing, that is designed to mold one's character.

Whoever loves discipline loves knowledge, but he who hates reproof is stupid.

Proverbs 12:1

Poverty and shame will come to him who neglects discipline, but he who regards reproof will be honored.

Proverbs 13:18



Hebrews 12:16-17

Consequences

That there be no immoral or godless person like Esau, who sold his own birthright for a single meal. For you know that even afterwards, when he desired to inherit the blessing, he was rejected, for he found no place for repentance, though he sought for it with tears.

For a moment of reckless folly, there is a lifetime of regret!

When Esau heard the words of his father, he cried out with an exceedingly great and bitter cry, and said to his father, "Bless me, even me also, O my father!"

Genesis 27:34

For the moment, hasty ill-advised actions produce immediate gratification. But afterwards one must deal with the undesirable consequences. One may experience remorse and regret, yet there is no way to undo what was done. Sometimes the consequences are suffered for the remainder of your life.

The foolishness of man ruins his way, and his heart rages against the Lord.

Proverbs 19:3

It's About 'Us'

"Not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some ..."

Hebrews 10:25

THE CONTEXT

Isolating a phrase can lead to being myopic and missing the main lesson. When the phrase is put back into the context, the full message becomes clear. I have highlighted the main admonitions found in the passage.

Therefore brethren, since we have confidence to enter the holy place by the blood of Jesus, by a new and living way which He inaugurated for us through the veil, that is, His flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God,

[THAT BEING SAID]

Let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. **Let us hold fast** the confession of our hope without wavering, for He who promised is faithful; **and let us consider** how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds, not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but **encouraging one another**; and all the more as you see the day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:19-25

OUR OWN ASSEMBLING

The phrase "our own assembling" is addressed to each individual. It's about what is to be done personally and jointly. Union is strength; continual assembling together begets and fosters love, and provides opportunities for interaction and fellowship. It's an occasion wherein each can sing praises to God, to say "Amen" to prayers that are spoken, and to reflect on one's own spiritual condition. It's also a time when vital information can be shared. So ...

- Let us draw near with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith.
- Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering.
- Let us consider how to stimulate one another to love and good deeds.
- [Let us] encourage one another.

We do this as brothers and sisters in Christ. Notice the plural pronouns: **us** (4 times), **our** (4 times) **we** (2 times) in the passage. **Yes, it's all about us, together!**

Therefore encourage one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing...We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

1 Thessalonians 5:11, 14

Note: The habit of forsaking the assembling is not the same as apostasy (abandoning one's faith). Although it puts one in a perilous situation.

Fellowship: Sharing a common faith, interest, and experiences.

BAPTIZED

(Noun) *baptisma* (G908), baptism. Consisting of the processes of immersion, submersion and emergence (from *bapto*, “to dip”), is used (a) of John’s “baptism,” (b) of Christian “baptism,”
– Vines Greek Dictionary

BAPTIZED UNTO SALVATION

“He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.”

Mark 16:16

BAPTIZED IN WATER

As they went along the road they came to some water; and the eunuch said, “Look! Water! What prevents me from being baptized?” [And Philip said, “If you believe with all your heart, you may.” And he answered and said, “I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.”] And he ordered the chariot to stop; and they both went down into the water, Philip as well as the eunuch, and he baptized him. Acts 8:36-38

BAPTIZED INTO CHRIST

For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. Galatians 3:27

BAPTIZED IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON, HOLY SPIRIT

Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.” Acts 2:38

BAPTIZED INTO ONE BODY

For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:13

BAPTIZED INTO DEATH [OF OLD MAN]

Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4

“Have a good day” is often expressed as one departs.

Here’s How to Have a Better Day

Avoiding Pettiness

To be impatiently displeased over trivial matters can ruin your day. Such slights (real or imagined) need to be overlooked. Dwelling on them and nurturing them will only produce discord even among the best of friends.

*A man’s discretion makes him slow to anger,
and it is his glory to overlook a
transgression.*

Proverbs 19:11



Ponder This

LESSONS IN A NUTSHELL

BE NOT ANXIOUS

Casting all your anxiety on Him, because He cares for you.

1 Peter 5:7

BE A LIVING SACRIFICE

Present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God.

Romans 12:1

BE THANKFUL

In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.

1 Thessalonians 5:18

BE CARING

That the members may have the same care for one another.

1 Corinthians 12:25

BE TRUTHFUL AND HONEST

But speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in all aspects into Him who is the head, even Christ.

Ephesians 4:15

BE AT PEACE

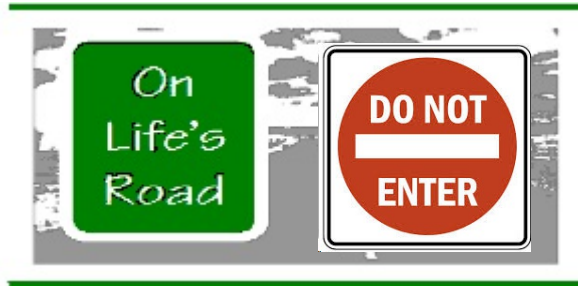
Pursue peace with all men, and the sanctification without which no one will see the Lord.

Hebrews 12:14

RESIST TEMPTATION

No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, so that you will be able to endure it.

1 Corinthians 10:13



A warning sign that motorists must heed. Ignoring it can lead to serious consequences.

DO NOT! WHY NOT?

When confronted with “do not” the usual response is “why not?” Good question. Yes, why not?

HERE'S THE ANSWER

Disobeying restrictions exposes one to serious problems that are frequently coupled with permanent consequences. Eve was told “Do not eat” of a particular tree in the Garden of Eden. She did, and the rest is history.

ON LIFE'S ROAD

WHY NOT ACT HASTILY?

Do not go out hastily to argue your case; Otherwise, what will you do in the end, when your neighbor humiliates you.

Proverbs 25:8

WHY NOT ASSOCIATE?

Do not associate with a man given to anger; Or go with a hot-tempered man, or you will learn his ways And find a snare for yourself.

Proverbs 22:24-25

WHY NOT ANSWER?

Do not answer a fool according to his folly, or you will also be like him.

Proverbs 26:4

WHY NOT ADD?

Do not add to His words or He will reprove you, and you will be proved a liar.

Proverbs 30:6

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