

Part Two

**NOT INTENDING TO ANGER,
BUT BEGGING EVERYONE TO STUDY
AND RESPECT GOD'S WORD**

Our plea is for all to know, hear and love God, and then fully submit to His will. We can understand His Word (Joh. 3:4). We can know the truth that will set us free from sin (John 8:32).

OUR GOAL: May we all seriously think, reconsider, evaluate the importance of going back to first century Christianity. As we examine the way of salvation found in the inspired Word of God we will understand why we must reject modern, man-made doctrines and theories.

It is our passionate desire to provoke one another unto LOVE and GOOD WORKS.

Hebrews 10:24

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works.

In writing to the church at Galatia Paul wrote:

Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth? (Gal. 4:16).

In the first century Jesus became an enemy to MANY to whom He spoke when He required their submission, acceptance and full obedience to His will. He spoke what they needed to hear, but at the time, it was not what they wanted to hear.

John 12:48

He that rejecteth me, and receiveth not my words, hath one that judgeth him; the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

Today, let us speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth - for this truth is what we need to hear, but sadly, not always what many want to hear.

Carefully consider the ancient words of the wise man Solomon as he reflects on the only thing that matters in our life today:

Ecclesiastes 12:13

Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments; for this is the whole duty of man.

Positive vs Negative

**SOME HAVE AN ATTITUDE OF
ACCEPT ALL POSITIVE,
REJECT EVERYTHING NEGATIVE**

Please consider, the apostle Paul was pleasing in the Lord's sight and being only positive was NOT what he thought, lived and preached. He spoke what was needed, but often it was not what they desired.

The all-positive position was certainly NOT the way of the apostle of love, John. Instead he proved his love for others by being bold and negative.

Our Lord and Saviour was NOT always positive and saying just sweet and wonderful things. Oh, at times He called people hypocrites, vipers and evil. He said that their worship was vain (empty, worthless, of no value) (Matt. 15:7ff). He pronounced many "woes" upon the scribes and Pharisees (Matt. 24). Many additional passages prove Jesus was often very negative - but without doubt for the good and benefit of His audience.

STOP AND CONSIDER - life would be great if all things went well, everything sweet and wonderful, just the way we think we want things - but that is not reality. Troubles do occur and bad things happen to good people. Machines, appliances, automobiles, etc., do break down.

The bare facts are: negative facts often address and define the accurate reality in our lives.

Let us also consider the person on the job, next door neighbor, or whoever might come to our mind who is ALWAYS totally negative, talking against others, defeating a course of action before it is hardly spoken, etc. No one appreciates that person and their attitude. This extreme is not how we should live, talk and act.

Keep your balance - not all negative, but equally recognize that seeking all positive is not realistic nor possible. Certainly we should accentuate the positive and minimize the negative (while not expecting to totally eliminate the negative).

(Continued Next Week (Lord Willing))



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**DEAR BROTHERS & SISTERS
AT OREGON GROVE CHURCH OF CHRIST,**

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR BEING A PART OF THE NOVEMBER 2023 COIN-CAN DRIVE AT NORTH ALABAMA CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME. BECAUSE OF PEOPLE LIKE YOU THAT CARE FOR CHILDREN IN NEED, NORTH ALABAMA CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S HOME IS ABLE TO GET THE THINGS THAT ARE NEEDED. YOUR COIN CAN OR CANS CONTAINED A TOTAL OF \$409.03.

MAY GOD'S RICHEST BLESSING BE WITH YOU AS YOU CONTINUE TO SERVE HIM.

**FOR THE CHILDREN,
Chris Moran, Executive Director**

THANK YOU!!!!



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