

D. L. Nicely Ministries

Teaching Newsletter

Secret place

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Part- 11...The Greatest need in the church today

"The Holy Spirit"

Galatians 5:22,23 (NKJV) ²²*But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control*

I know it may not be popular teaching today but transformed Christians are supposed to seek to practice self-control and be obedient to the word of God. This is because they have a love for God. Their main prayer is for the ability to control themselves and follow the teachings of the scriptures. Only through the power of the Holy Spirit are we given self-control. In other words that which we cannot do for our self God does for us. Friends our time on this earth is short and we must constantly be reviewing how we are using our hours. We must make sure that we don't leave God out of our everyday life. Paul said to redeem our time. Or to buy as much of it as possible. Once you realize how important your time is then you will better control it. You will not waste time but use it wisely as the word commands us.

Ephesians 5:15 - 16 (NKJV) ¹⁵*See then that you walk circumspectly, not as fools but as wise,* ¹⁶*redeeming the time, because the days are evil.*

We are not only to take control of our time, but are also to take control of our temper. Proverbs warns us that we must control our tempers.

Proverbs 16:32 (NKJV) ³²*He who is slow to anger is better than the mighty, and he who rules his spirit than he who takes a city.*

It is never right to become angry quickly. The reason is because there is punishment for uncontrolled anger. And that punishment is God's judgment.

Matthew 5:22 (NKJV) ²²*But I say to you that whoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment. And whoever says to his brother, 'Raca!' shall be in danger of the council. But whoever says, 'You fool!' shall be in danger of hell fire.*

James the lords brother exhorts us that Christians should be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger. James 1:9

Also notice that God fashioned us with two ears and only one mouth. So we probably should be quiet twice as much as we speak. Exercising self-control in your speech will probably be your toughest assignment on this planet so use caution with what you let come out of your mouth.

When you surrender your tongue to God all evil is removed from your life.

Ephesians 4:31 (NKJV) ³¹*Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.*

But be warned if we do not surrender our tongue all our religious activity or all the good things that we do for other people and God is considered vain effort in the eyes of God.

James 1:26 (NKJV) ²⁶*If anyone among you thinks he is religious, and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his own heart, this one's religion is useless.*

I'd like to discuss one last area that we must definitely learn to exercise self-control in. It's the area of using our gifts and talents and abilities for the kingdom.

Matthew 25:15 - 30 (NKJV) ¹⁵*And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to*

each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. ¹⁶Then he who had received the five talents went and traded with them, and made another five talents. ¹⁷And likewise he who had received two gained two more also. ¹⁸But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord's money. ¹⁹After a long time the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰“So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ ²¹His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ ²²He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ ²³His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your lord.’ ²⁴“Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ ²⁶“But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. ²⁷So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. ²⁹‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

In the story of the parable of the talents Jesus gives us a look into the future rewards that we will receive for what we do in this life. Each of us are given talents and abilities and God expects none the less that we use them to aid in building up his kingdom. If we don't use them to make gain somehow in the kingdom the master gets upset. Notice also that God only rewards faithfulness in verses 21&23. But with the same token he punishes unfaithfulness. In fact he not only rebukes the fearful, unfaithful servant but he also punishes him by casting him out into outer darkness. You determine for yourself what that means, because I'm not saying. For this reason whatever you do take our Discovery class and learn how God has gifted you to serve him. But whatever you do please learn to exercise self-control.

God Bless

Continued next month with the final installment of the greatest need on the church today.