

BIBLICAL TEACHINGS

“Nobody's Perfect”
(“Truth or Excuse”)

FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH...



“NOBODY’S PERFECT”
(Truth or Excuse?)

Since the birth of the Church some two-thousand years ago, we have slowly become a people of soft shoulders and feelings that are easily hurt or offended, and often without good reason. Never except in these times, have men and women of the gospel become nurses and babysitters of people’s feelings, people who often need to be pampered and pacified. The scriptures tell us...*Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but **after their own lusts** shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears; **And they** (the teachers) **shall turn away their ears** (the hearers) **from the truth, and shall be turned** unto fables (lies).*

Quite a thought provoking statement! So, who is he referring to here, the sinners? no, but to the **Christian community!** “*After their own lusts....*” One of the reasons that many have not chosen to grow into perfection is that they have chosen rather to continue to fulfill their own desires; (**we must consistently die to ourselves**) (Rom. 8:13/Col. 3:5).

We are told in the word to gird up our loins, to quit you like men, to be very courageous (1 Pet.1:13, 1 Sam. 4:9, 1 Cor. 16:13, Joshua 1: 6, 7, 9, Eph.6:10). But it seems today that most “Christians” are looking for the “*red carpet!!*” “*everyday is peaches and cream!!*” type of Christianity. Isn’t it quite odd that Christ spoke of John the Baptist as one not clothed in soft raiment, and referenced that those gorgeously clothe are in kings houses? (Luke 7:25/Matt.11:8)...Hum!!

Now I know and understand that in 1 Sam. 4:9 the command to “quit you like men” was spoken through the lips of a Philistine officer, a pagan, a nation of people without the promises of God, without his word among them, a nation without His favor. But because they were determined, being motivated by **fear** of becoming slaves, they fought and defeated the people of Israel. Please listen to what I am saying here!

Motivated by **fear??** Well the first thing that many will say is... “God has not given us a spirit of fear”. And they are correct, if they understand the use of that scripture in its context. You see the Apostle Paul was ministering to Timothy and admonishing him to stir up the gift that is in him, not being afraid or ashamed of the testimony of the Lord nor of Paul himself, and to be willing and not afraid to suffer for the gospel’s sake. (“I believe that when we start understanding and using the scriptures in their proper perspectives, and not twisting them for our own purpose and hype that feeds on people’s emotions and egos, then will we begin to walk in true power and the authority that the Father has ordained...just my opinion!”).

Now back to the fear thing: No, the Father has not given us a spirit of fear, nor of timidity. You see when it comes to being a witness and proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ, we must not be afraid of the repercussions. So we are not to fear for our own lives or safety. Jesus said that we should not seek to save our own lives, but to loose it for the kingdom of God’s sake. So, some types of fear are normal.

Now the Philistines were motivated because they did not want to become slaves to the Hebrews. We in the same way should be motivated to become more mature (perfect) and not continue to make excuses for our own unwillingness to make changes, changes that we are exhorted to make. I believe that we use the mercy and grace of God, and the old saying: “well God knows my heart” as an excuse not to kill our flesh, and to stop doing the things that we love to do!

Yes, nobody's perfect as it relates to being without sin, Jesus Christ is the only one that is perfect and is our perfect sinless sacrifice that has redeemed us back to the Father. But we are commanded to come to perfection, the Lord has made an investment in each of us, and He expects a return. As the writer of Hebrews addressing the saints of Italy in Hebrews 5:12 makes it very clear: *For when for the time ye ought to be teachers, ye have need that one teach you again which be the first principles of the oracles of God; and are become such as have need of milk, and not of strong meat.*

*Matthew 25:15-27 And unto one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one; to every man according to his several ability; and straightway took his journey.
16 Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents.*

17 And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two.

18 But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money.

19 After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them.

20 And so he that had received five talents came and brought other five talents, saying, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me five talents: behold, I have gained beside them five talents more.

21 His lord said unto him, Well done, thou good and faithful servant: thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

22 He also that had received two talents came and said, Lord, thou deliveredst unto me two talents: behold, I have gained two other talents beside them.

23 His lord said unto him, Well done, good and faithful servant; thou hast been faithful over a few things, I will make thee ruler over many things: enter thou into the joy of thy lord.

24 Then he which had received the one talent came and said, Lord, I knew thee that thou art an hard man, reaping where thou hast not sown, and gathering where thou hast not strowed:

25 And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine.

26 His lord answered and said unto him, Thou wicked and slothful servant, thou knewest that I reap where I sowed not, and gather where I have not strowed:

27 Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury.

Here we see that Jesus is admonishing believers to show an increase, There is something seriously wrong if you are spiritually in the same place that you were 3 years ago. And

yes, I understand that there is a different development level for each of us as individuals, and the word says that the Father has given to every man a measure of faith. But at the same time we are to develop according to our ability... there should be a level of growth!

Do you really want to mature in Christ? Are you really seeking to be like Him? What are you willing to sacrifice?, what are you willing to forsake? Will you die to yourself so that Christ can live in you and perfect you? The decision is yours, I beseech you therefore brethren by the mercies of God that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God which is your reasonable service.

Thank you for taking the time to read this article on coming to perfection. If you have any comments or question, please contact me at: brokenvessel51@yahoo.com

B-blessed;
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