



The Voice Of Truth

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Having Pleasure in Ungodliness

By Jimmy Pettigrew

Ending the longest catalogue of sins listed in the New Testament (**Romans 1:28-31**), Paul concludes, “*Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them,*” (**Romans 1:32**). The sins were those committed by Gentiles after they rejected the knowledge of God. God decreed that Adam (and all of his posterity) was worthy of death (natural death), because of one sin. How much more then are these Gentiles worthy of death who habitually practiced these vile crimes. These most reprehensible sins were not only practiced by them, but were also condoned and sanctioned in others around them.

Not merely this passage, but others in God’s word, tells us God’s people must “*Abstain from all appearance of evil,*” (**1 Thessalonians 5:22**). “*Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity,*” (**2 Timothy 2:19**). “*Enter not into the path of the wicked,*

and go not in the way of evil men. Avoid it, pass not by it, turn from it, and pass away,” (**Proverbs 4:14-15**). “*Abhor that which is evil; cleave to that which is good,*” (**Romans 12:9**). Read again: *Be not deceived: evil communications corrupt good manners,*” (**1 Corinthians 15:33**). You can’t play in soot and remain lily white.

One of the greatest weaknesses in the church today is our toleration of sinfulness that surrounds us! We seemingly condone every evil sensual practice by not crying out against it! We watch programs on our TV that promote immodesty, adultery; homosexuality is funny, cursing and all manner of foul language is cool, we sit and watch other people dancing and it doesn’t bother us, and on and on we go! Our society has become inured to “sexual freedom,” “choice of lifestyle, and “sexual revolution” that few things are openly challenged, much less condemned.

“WHO NOT ONLY DO THE SAME, BUT HAVE PLEASURE IN THEM THAT DO THEM!” God’s people must always “stand up and be counted for righteousness.”

THINK IT OVER

Isn’t it strange how some Christians can be pushed and insulted in the ticket line at a ball game, ignored at the barber shop or beauty shop, bawled out in the grocery store, yet they never cease to frequent these places? However, if they feel slighted at a church service, they often refuse to attend for weeks, and sometimes quit for good. Yes, it is strange, isn’t it? Not only is it strange, it is inconsistent. Being peeved at the brethren and forsaking the Lord is as logical as being angry at the dog and kicking the cat.

THINK! THINK! THINK!

I read a little story the other day which illustrates a great lesson. It seems two wives were sitting together mending their husband’s pants. One said to the other: “John is so discouraged in his church work. He said he is considering quitting.” The other replied: “Why that’s so strange, my husband was just saying the very opposite. He is so enthusiastic; it seems like he is closer to the Lord than ever before!”

A hushed silence fell as they sat mending trousers, one patching the **KNEES**, the other patching the **SEAT!**

There you have it! It’s all a matter of attitude and action. What’s your attitude? What action are you taking for the Lord’s cause here?

Things That Impress Visitors

1. Members that day dream or sleep through the sermon; talk during observance of the Lord’s Supper.
2. Scribbling in and playing with the hymnals.

3. Members who whisper, talk, write notes, and pass pictures, etc. during services.
4. Persistent late-comers who disturb and distract the worshipers.
5. Members who do not speak to visitors.
-borrowed-

“O To Be Like Thee”

I WILL:

LIKE PAUL – Forget those things which are behind and press forward. (**Philippians 2:13-14**)

LIKE DAVID – Lift up mine eyes unto the hills, whence cometh my help. (**Psalm 121**)

LIKE ABRAHAM – Trust implicitly in God. (**Hebrews 11:17**).

LIKE ENOCH – Walk in daily fellowship with my heavenly Father. (**Genesis 5:18**)

-borrowed-

Can You Imagine?

Paul saying: “You don’t have to obey the gospel to be saved?” Read **2 Thessalonians 1:7-9**.

Paul saying: “We are sprinkled with him in baptism?” Read **Romans 6:4**.

Jude saying: “I don’t think it is right to argue the scriptures?” Read **Jude 3**.