

# THE LEVITE

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**Profit from the Prison**  
Part II



**All Your Living**  
...humbly sacrificed all...



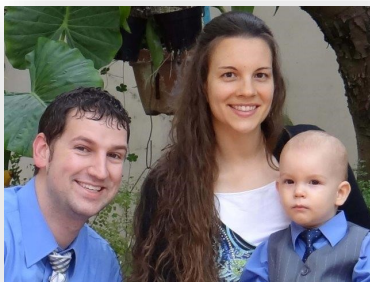
**Cessationism**  
An attempt to deceive the Church

***Blood of the Lamb***

***“And they overcame him  
by the Blood of the Lamb”***

***(Revelation 12:11)***

 **HODGENVILLE  
PENTECOSTAL  
CHURCH**  
*Pentecostal by Experience - Holiness by Choice*



## ALL YOUR LIVING

Mark 12:41-44

Rev. Cody Randall

One day, Jesus was in the temple observing those who came, those who gave, the amount given, and even the haughty or humble way the offerings were placed in His Father's treasury. He was not oblivious to the happenings in His Father's house or any other house for that matter. He surveyed the host of rich folk giving large offerings, but was more concerned about the personal loss sustained by each giver. In the temple, He instructed His disciples to note the small amount that was given by a seemingly insignificant poor woman.

This is truly an amazing, though short, story of a widow woman of little renown. She was irrelevant in the eyes of all who observed or ignored her except to the person who mattered most. She caught the eye of Christ. The Messiah, his disciples, and all of heaven, along with every soul that has ever read the Gospels of Mark and/or Luke, were focused on her.

Four verses in the Gospel of Mark and four verses in the Gospel of Luke are devoted to her deeds. Every Christian, no doubt, has wondered at this trivial woman who gave an unmentionable, small amount of money in the midst of great and glorious givers. We wonder why she would even be mentioned by Christ, let alone recorded in the Holy Bible.

The reason is this: She willingly and humbly sacrificed all she had. Her actions are simple, yet profound; modest, yet glorious; irrelevant, yet applicable. She did all she could. She gave all, not just extra, even what she needed to survive. If we so emulated her attitude and actions no doubt God would be pleased with us.

Ananias and Sapphira were those who attempted to imitate Barnabas's sincerity in selling and giving all

without paying the same price. They instead follow the habits of the rich men who, ahead of the widow, gave great sums that would seem to cost them much but were not sacrificial. We by no means belittle the rich for giving generously but applaud the widow for giving all. Ananias and Sapphira lied to the apostles and to the Holy Spirit.

Do we lie to ourselves, to others, to friends, to the preacher, to God? Do we say that we have truly given all? We are certain that if someone truly does give all, they mostly certainly will do so with a right attitude. Someone does not give everything without being motivated by pure intentions. In this case it is almost impossible to have right actions yet lack a right attitude. If the attitude is filthy, the actions will not follow the course of

sacrificial giving.

If we could lay aside pride, arrogance, and conceit, we could come with a humble offering of all we possess to the Possessor of all who gave all so that He might possess all of us and that we might possess all of Him. We could clasp hold of the principle of liberality in giving, not withholding more than is

necessary which tends to poverty, but scattering and increasing thereby, casting our bread upon the water, sowing seed, and not regarding the weather. These concepts require sacrificial giving on some part and many times all parts.

First century A.D., the background of our widow's heroism, was a treacherous, tumultuous, and traitorous time of Roman occupation with spies everywhere and publicans (tax collectors) who stole from the people.

*She willingly and  
humbly sacrificed all  
she had*

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## CESSATIONISM

### An attempt to deceive the Church

**“It is too late to tell me now”**

Brother David Whelan  
Head Usher - Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

I recently read an article about a man that claimed to be a prophet that traveled all the way from Scotland to California to rebuke a Pastor publically for his stand on something called Cessationism. That was the first time I had been exposed to that term, so I looked it up. It is a word that describes a group of professing Christians that assert that the Gifts of the Spirit ceased with the death of the last Apostle, John. They believe they are not for our time.

Apparently there is a movement afoot among these folks to deny the gifts of the spirit. They have worked very hard in an attempt to prove this Biblically. This brings to mind the scripture from 2 Timothy, Chapter 2:7; It seems that man is *“....always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.”*

I confess to having lived most of my Christian life in Churches where most of the spiritual gifts were never observed. I understand how faith can be drained. Until the last few years, I felt that someone could be healed supernaturally, I just hadn't seen it firsthand yet. Subsequently, having observed nothing short of “Peter and John” miracles, “It is too late to tell me now that it

isn't real.” Now I find myself having great faith for healing, actually expecting it. The miracles will always amaze me, but the fact that God gives this gift does not. He told us in his word that He would.

The opposite view of the above is Continuationism, or the belief that the gifts are for our time and it is Biblical for them to be in use. God uses Christians as a conduit for the power of the Holy Ghost to work miracles in our time. It is an important distinction here that it is the Holy Ghost at work, not man. I don't think Moses ever claimed to have the power to part a major body of water, he readily acknowledged that it was God at work. He was only a tool. Nor should anyone claim to have healed someone, the credit always goes to the Lord.

The Pastor, John F. MacArthur, I mentioned earlier has made a career of furthering various Calvinist causes and is also a leader of this Cessasionist movement. In 2013 he and his Church, Grace Community Church of Los Angeles, sponsored and hosted the first “Strange Fire Conference” to launch his book “Strange fire”. In the limited space here, the argument centers around 1 Cor 13:8-12: *“Charity never faileth: but whether there be*

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## ►►► All Your Living - continued from page 2

Tax collectors were considered traitors by the Jews because they helped to gather required taxes and often amassed great fortunes by over-taxing the Jews, such as in the case of Zacchaeus. Jesus' disciple, Matthew, was a tax-collector whom Jesus rescued from the same profession. The money changers were thrown out of the temple by Jesus (probably twice) for making His Father's house a den of thieves. These are all examples of theft and extortion.

In the midst of all the hypocrisy and corruption, it must have been a breath of fresh air for Christ to find humble, unassuming, and gracious giving in His Father's house. This woman became a paradigm for Jesus to use in instructing his disciples and essentially all Christians. She became a simple example of Christ's desire for honesty, integrity, grace, and giving.

Her example isn't limited to a discussion on money. In this materialistic generation we could claim to have little, or no, money to give. We surely are not discouraged from investing our possessions, time, money, effort, family, food, etc. into God's kingdom. Giving until it hurts can take many ways, shapes, and forms.

Sacrifice can be the only sure valuing system to attest to the worth of the gifts or offerings we bring before our Maker. If it be sacrificial, then it is valuable, one of a kind, priceless, or worthy to bring. The rich men in the story brought much according to the economic standards set in place, but according to God's valuing system,

they lacked the proper need to make their gifts of higher value to God than the widow who gave everything. We must, in giving, consider God's economy. We must echo the words of David as he said (paraphrasing) I cannot give that which costs me nothing.

Nathanael was another humble believer who was proclaimed to be a man in whom was no guile (deceit). He might be called a "sincere seeker" in modern terms - one who obviously impressed our Lord and worshiped in spirit and in truth. Upon securing the truth of Philip's claim that Jesus was unquestionably Messiah, he dived with faith into discipleship. He later gave his life for the glory of God in evangelism, paying the ultimate price among the heathen in modern day Armenia and/or Azerbaijan.

The conclusion of the matter is that we ought to replicate the behavior of these sincere believers who, with humility, came, unassuming, to give **all their living** at the Lord's bidding and for His glory. Let us be as full of integrity as Job was when God drew the attention of Satan, taunting him saying, "Have you considered my servant...a perfect and upright man...." For Job with possessions, servants, and family remained faithful to God without possessions, servants, and family. Let us say, "The Lord gave, and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord." Be blessed as you realize anew and afresh that "it is more blessed to give than to receive."



## Important Dates 2016

- Pentecostal Fire Youth Conference - March 31st - April 1st  
Pigeon Forge, TN - [www.pfyc.net](http://www.pfyc.net)
- Men's Advance - May 6th - 7th  
Camp Níkao (Elizabethtown, KY) [www.mensadvance.net](http://www.mensadvance.net)
- Bluegrass Pentecostal Youth Camp - July 11th - 15th  
Camp Níkao (Elizabethtown, KY) [www.BluegrassPentecostal.com](http://www.BluegrassPentecostal.com)

## ►►► Cessationism - continued from page 3

*prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away*". The key argument here is the term perfect. If interpreted as meaning mature, then Cessationists will assert that event occurred with the completion of the New Testament Canon. The gifts were no longer needed to establish or edify the church. Continuationists would argue the event referred to as "that which is perfect is come" refers to the second coming of The Christ; therefore, the gifts will not be needed after his coming among the Church.

The modern Cessationist Movement may have had its earliest beginnings with a Presbyterian theologian, Benjamin Warfield, in the early part of the 20<sup>th</sup> century. He researched written history all the way back to Clement of Rome in 95 AD and found "no solid objective scientific reference of the working of miracles manifested within the mainstream of the church after the lifetime of the Apostles." Other studies have been done that give varying estimates up to the 4<sup>th</sup> century AD.

John MacArthur has written extensively on this topic. He refers to the use of the gifts as Charismatic worship. I know that is a loaded term with Pentecostal folks. He is using it

in the context of describing the whole of Spirit filled worship, which to the outside world includes all Pentecostals. They do not readily differentiate among us.

At the opening of the 2013 Strange Fire Conference, Pastor MacArthur is quoted as saying, *"I have watched the behavior of Hindu Cults, their body movements are almost identical to that of the people of the Charismatic (continuationist) movement. This is the work of Satan, it is the work of darkness, and not to be attributed to the Holy Ghost. The Charismatic movement has stolen the Holy Spirit and created a Golden Calf, and they're dancing around the golden calf as if it were the Holy Spirit."* Those are strong words that deserve a strong response.

First, I would respond that some of the problem are the Charismatics in the sense that we understand them. The likes of Benny Hinn and your local First Church of the Flesh have so distorted the gifts and made a fraud of them, that it is little wonder that well-meaning people are skeptical.

Secondly, as learned as Pastor MacArthur and his ilk may be, I have one thing they do not....experience. I have often reflected on my background and wondered how the fine people I grew up with in The First Nominal Church might have missed such a thing as the moving of the Holy Ghost. In fact, I have had to pray through resentment that they

seemed to ignore the third Person of the Trinity completely. I felt short changed. (Jeremiah 23:1 *Woe unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! Saith the Lord.*) Please imagine the following with me: I picture a time in the not so distant past when many, if not most Churches, were havens of Holy Ghost activity, eventually people became more educated (I am not disputing the value of education.), more self-reliant, living became easier as they became more self-reliant. Eventually, entertaining the Holy Ghost became less and less frequent. Finally, there were only a few old gray heads left that had ever seen or heard of a move of the Holy Ghost. Add a new Pastor without the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. When the gray heads died out, so did the Holy Ghost from that congregation... No one was left that had any knowledge, experience, or authority to preach or teach about the Holy Ghost. Thence comes Pastor MacArthur and his kind. They have become so entrenched in their position that they are no longer even open to Him moving in their life. Pride inhibits them from seeking or receiving the filling of the Holy Ghost, and prevents them from witnessing and experiencing the gifts of the Spirit. One thing is sure, the Holy Ghost is a gentleman, He will not reside where He is not wanted.

Bro Zane Estis, a noted Holiness Pentecostal Evangelist, says this amounts to a leadership issue. "You get what you preach."

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## BIBLE DISCIPLINE

Brother Don and Sister Debbie Woolett

Kidz Church Directors - Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

For the most part, when we hear the word "discipline" we usually think of the parent/child relationship. As a parent we do need to have the mind of God in the disciplining of our children. **Ephesians 6:4** tells us, "And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath: but bring them up in the nurture (discipline) and admonition (instruction) of the Lord." The scripture makes it clear that the whole purpose of disciplining our children should be to guide them to a relationship with the Lord, not to release our frustration.

Children need guidance. Discipline is an important part of their guidance. **Proverbs 29:15** says, "The rod and reproof give wisdom: but a child left to himself bringeth his mother to shame." Children will be children and may even need correction at Wal-Mart, the grocery etc..., but if you find yourself yelling and jerking your kids around in public or they exhibit frequent temper tantrums, you need to remember others see that as the lack of control in your own life and we lose the opportunity to be a witness.

continued on age 11 ➤ ➤ ➤

## ➤ ➤ ➤ Cessationism - continued from page 5

He points out that when Martin Luther nailed the 95 Theses on the Church door, no one had interpreted scripture to say that we are saved by grace for 1500 years....does that mean he was wrong? In the 1700's John Wesley said that the liberty of grace had turned into the liberty to sin, no one had called for holy living since the Apostles. Does that mean he was wrong? In 1901, Agnes Ozmon and her classmates in Topeka Kansas, building on the revelation of Luther and Wesley and others, asked the professor if the gifts of the Spirit and the infilling of the Holy Ghost were real. He told them to stay at school and pray over Christmas break, and on January 1, 1901, she was filled with the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues... No one had seen that for 2000 years. Does that mean she was wrong?

In fact, it is true that after the apostles, faith was replaced with knowledge. The dark ages relegated scripture to only the most learned. Faith died out and was replaced with the tyranny of the Clergy during the dark ages. It took the reformation and the printing press for the tide to begin to turn the other direction. I recall the value that was placed on the Pastor having a PhD in the church where I grew up. It was a point of pride that our Pastor was Dr. So and So. Again, I am not throwing eggs at education, but it does cause one to over analyze, especially if that person puts a premium on knowledge over faith. The Holy Ghost is not sick. He doesn't need a Doctor. He

needs an obedient Shepherd that seeks God and loves His sheep.

Cessationism seems to be another construct of the enemy to plant a lie in God's people. Without experience Christians are subject to believing this pseudo-doctrine. This is no different than eternal salvation, salvation of the elect, and a host of other falsehoods that have been floated over the years. I can tell you from experience that it is a shame for a child of the King to live beneath his privilege. God wants to give us good gifts.

I don't know about your Church, but the gifts of the Holy Spirit are alive and well at Hodgenville Pentecostal Church. I am here to testify of healings, deliverances, prophesies, tongues and interpretation. I know people with discernment that causes you to check yourself in their presence. I have seen a brother who had his optic nerve removed get up and read with only that eye from God's Holy Bible. I have seen a sister with chronic Rheumatoid Arthritis healed instantaneously. I have seen a brother that needed help getting to the Altar and up the steps of the Church run a lap around the Church and go on to walk a 15 mile mail route daily for months after that. I was there when God touched him on a Wednesday night. Finally, I was there, rolling in my kitchen floor from pain from Kidney stones when my wife came and said a simple prayer for my relief and God touched me in such a powerful way that it took me 30 minutes to get over it. The pain abated immediately, the lingering of the Holy Ghost took 30 minutes.

**It is too late to tell me now.**





## BLOOD OF THE LAMB

**Revelation 12:11** *And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb...*

Brother David Webb  
Senior Pastor - Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

W. D. Davies states in his book *Paul and Rabbinic Judaism* that in the temple at Jerusalem every year there were many sacrifices. There were 1,093 lambs, 113 bulls, 37 rams and 32 goats. These were the official sacrifices and did not count the private sacrifices of the people! These sacrifices pacified God, but did not satisfy Him. However there was a lamb... a spotless lamb. He was "The Lamb of God" slain from the foundation of the earth.

One of President Lyndon B. Johnson's daughters was once asked by an inquisitive journalist to describe her relationship with her famous father. Without a moment's hesitation she replied, "*Blood.*"

May I submit to you that when I was a sinner...

It was not my singing that saved me - **It was the blood!**

It was not my last name that cleansed me - **It was the blood!**

It was not the Virgin Mary that atoned for my sins - **It was the blood!**

It was not the water in a creek that washed away my sin - **It was the blood!**

It was not shaking the preacher's hand or becoming a member that lifted me from hell's flames – **It was the blood!**

As the old song says, "I know it was the blood... I know it was the blood ... Saved me... one day when I was lost He died upon the cross... I know it was the blood for me."

The Blood is...

The sin eradicator  
The soul emancipator  
The addiction eliminator

The Blood is...

Satan's thorn  
Sinner's Trust  
Saint's Triumph

The Blood is...

The curse crusher  
The conscience clearer  
The carnality cleanser

The Blood is...

Calvary's cleanser  
Heaven's mender  
Broken life changer

The Blood, the Blood, the Blood of Jesus ....

Demons dread the thought of it.

Hell shakes at the sight of it.

Redeemed rejoice at the wonder of it.

Are you washed in the Blood?

An alcoholic became a believer and was asked how he could possibly believe all the nonsense in the Bible about miracles. "*You don't believe that Jesus changed the water into wine do you?*" He answered confidently, "*I sure do, because in our house Jesus changed the whiskey into furniture.*"

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## **Blood of the Lamb** - continued from page 7

The Devil has lied to millions. He convinces them there is no hope, that they have gone too far and done too much... but there is an answer written in the Word of God that refutes this thinking. It is found in 1 John 1:7 *"...and the blood of Jesus Christ his son cleanseth us from all sin."*

At thirty-two years of age William Cowper passed through a great crisis in his life. He tried to end his life by taking laudanum. Then he hired a coach and was driven to the Thames, intending to throw himself into the river; but some power seemed to restrain him. The next morning he fell upon a knife, but the blade broke and his life was saved. He then tried to hang himself, and was cut down unconscious but still alive. Then one morning, in a moment of strange cheerfulness, he took up his Bible and read a verse in the letter to the Romans. In a moment he received strength to believe and rejoiced in the forgiving power of God. Some years later, after he had passed through a rich Christian experience and had written many beautiful hymns, Cowper sat down one day and summed up his faith in God's dealings with him. He then penned these timeless words *"There is a fountain filled with blood drawn from Emmanuel's veins and sinners plunged beneath the flood lose all their guilty stains!"*

As was said by the Reverend Shad McDonald at the 2011 Pentecostal Fire Youth Conference in Louisville, KY... "I believe the Blood of the Lamb..."

Atones and Assures	Immaculate and Infinite	Quickens and Qualifies
Bought and Blesses	Just and Justified	Redeems and Revives
Cleanses and Consecrates	Kingly and Keeping	Saves and Sanctifies
Delivers and Delights	Lovely and Loosing	Trustworthy and Triumphant
Emancipates and Eradicates	Marvelous and Mysterious	Unadulterated and Unequal
Frees and Furnishes	Necessary and Noble	Valuable and Vital
Glorious and Great	Obliterates and Overcomes	Worthy and Wonderful
Healing and Holy	Pardons and Purifies	

Because of the blood ... I am an X- sinner because He was yielded up a perfect sacrifice who took away my sins which were Zillions!"

The condition of your soul may be weighing heavy. The rest you seek escapes you, but listen my friend... call on Jesus, repent of your sins and find forgiveness and peace in Jesus.

I heard an old time preacher say, *"God can save anybody anywhere anytime!"*

In Matthew 19:25 the disciples asked, ***"Who then can be saved?"*** Thank God anyone can be saved.

### ANYBODY ...

- He saved a harlot like Rahab.
- He saved a demon-possessed woman like Mary Magdalene.
- He saved a religious man like Nicodemus.
- He saved a rich man like Zacchaeus.
- He saved a poor man like Lazarus.
- He saved a fisherman like Peter.
- He saved a doctor like Luke.
- He saved a government official like the Ethiopian.
- He saved a lawyer like Zenas.
- He saved a jailer like the Philippian.

continued on age 9 





## PROFIT FROM THE PRISON - Part II

Brother Jeremy Spurlock

Associate Pastor - Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

As we survey the scenes of Paul's prison experience, we cannot help but see the silver lining within those dark clouds, and discover the true purpose for the pain and peril that life throws our way.

One of the main reasons Paul found profit in his pain was the simple fact that he continued to be productive even while in prison. Incarcerated and silenced, or so it seemed, but while his public preaching may have ceased, Paul still found ways to produce fruit for the Kingdom of God. The Jewish council no doubt thought they had destroyed the work of God in this man's life, but as Paul sat caged inside the cold bars of that jail cell his pen never stopped moving. He wrote to the Ephe-

sians and Colossians, to the church at Philippi, and to Philemon. It has been said that the church has "profited" more from Paul's prison letters than from any of his other works. Those Holy Ghost inspired words that poured out of the heart of that prisoner have brought strength and comfort to the masses.

***"Put on the whole armour of God."* Ephesians 6:11**

***"My God shall supply all of your needs according to His riches in glory in Christ Jesus."* Philippians 4:19**

***"Set your affections on things above"* Colossians 3:2**

***"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."* Philippians 4:13**

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## ➤ ➤ ➤ **Blood of the Lamb** - continued from page 8

- He saved the thief who was hanging on a cross.
- He saved an IRS agent like Matthew.

In the Bible there was no white church, black church, red church, yellow church or brown church ... There is only the blood bought church of Jesus Christ. Jesus did not come to save skins but souls!

### **ANYWHERE. ...**

- He saved Levi in an IRS office (Mark 2:14).
- He saved Peter and Andrew at work.
- He saved the paralytic man in a house.
- He saved Zacchaeus at the foot of a tree (Luke 19:4).
- He saved Paul in the middle of the road (Acts 9:3).
- He saved the Samaritan woman at a well (John 4:11).
- He saved the Ethiopian in the desert (Acts 8:26).
- He saved the Philippian jailer in a prison (Acts 16:26).
- He saved the thief on a cross (Matt. 27:38).
- He saved Legion in the Graveyard.

*...Whether you are on the job, at home, up a tree, in the middle of the road, at a well, in a desert, in prison, or on a cross, Jesus has the ability to save anywhere.*

### **ANYTIME ...**

- The Apostle Paul testified that he was saved at "midday".
- The thief on the cross was saved between the sixth and ninth hour.
- Nicodemus was saved at "night" (John 3:2).
- The Philippian jailer was saved at "midnight" (Acts 16:25).

Because of the blood He can save *anybody, anywhere, any time.*

Romans 10:8-9 <sup>8</sup>*But what saith it? The word is nigh thee, even in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, the word of faith, which we preach;* <sup>9</sup>*That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*



## ►►► Profit for the Prison - Part II - continued from page 9

There was a man named John who had stirred up Hell's minions because of the work he was doing for the kingdom of God. They seized him and threw him in prison. Thinking that they had accomplished their purpose, they kept him there for 12 years. But while in prison God moved on John through dreams and produced one of the greatest religious literary works, outside of the Bible, that has ever been written – Pilgrim's Progress. How many thousands of people have "profited" from John Bunyan's prison experience as they have read about Christian's journey to that Celestial City?

**It is the frustration and irritation of that foreign object in the life of the oyster  
that produces the pearl. Without the pain there would be no profit.**

Another factor that surfaces as we study the prison experience of Paul is the fulfilled promises of God in his life. Directly after Paul's conversion on the road to Damascus, God sent Ananias to pray for him. As Ananias reluctantly pondered the situation, the Lord spoke to him and said, *"Go thy way; for he (Paul) is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel."* Acts 9:15 I wonder if during the ministry of Paul these words were not somewhere lingering in the back of his mind. As he journeyed far and near preaching the Gospel to Jews and Gentiles, no doubt he wondered when he would stand before kings to proclaim the blessed name of Christ. However, that day never came until God allowed Paul to go to prison. Paul found a pulpit in prison that he never would have found anywhere else. As he stood declaring the wonderful works of God before rulers and kings, he said, *"I think myself happy, king Agrippa, because I shall answer for myself this day before thee..."* Acts 26:2 How can a man be happy about being a prisoner?

~ Even the jailbird is expected to sing. ~

Paul refused to allow the circumstances of the prison cell to steal his praise or silence his song. He knew that God was in complete control and that He was working His will through this season of suffering; he was also fully persuaded that God was still worthy of praise even though things might not be according to his own desires. Paul's prison letters overflow with joy, praise and thanksgiving to God.

***"Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say rejoice." Philippians 4:4***

***"Giving thanks always for all things" Ephesians 5:20***

He had learned a long time ago that his circumstances did not have to determine his worship of God. During his early years of ministry, he found himself sitting alongside Silas with a beaten and bloody back, but even though they were in agony and pain, bound and chained in a prison cell, they still found a reason to rejoice. And because of their rejoicing, there was a suicidal man and his whole family who found salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ.

There is nothing that proves more profitable in the kingdom of heaven like the complete conversion of a sinner saved by grace! This then is the message that can be found in Paul's prison letter to Philemon – sometimes God uses the prison to bring forth that which is most profitable.

**Has your "prison experience" stolen your song or silenced your praise?**

**Are you still productive for the Kingdom of God even while you are in the trial of your life?**

**Will you allow God to use those times in the prison  
to produce something profitable within you and within the lives of others?**



## ►►► Bible Discipline - continued from page 6

When we recognize and Biblically administer discipline to our children it becomes an expression of love even if for the moment it is uncomfortable. Discipline is very much a part of life. It is necessary in the home, at school, on the job and in the church. Notice it does not stop when we become an adult.

The Lord has blessed our church with great Biblical teaching on the family which includes proper child discipline. I'll be the first to admit we were not the perfect parents. We live in a broken world and human nature can have a strong pull. Whatever you do, don't lose your focus on the Lord. Not only will we suffer, but our children will suffer also.

Discipline goes much further than just the parent/child relationship. As an adult there are two main areas of discipline in which we will deal.

### Discipline from God

- Hebrews 12:6 teaches us, *"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."*

It is very clear that the reason the Lord chastens/disciplines us is because He loves us. Any time discipline is administered it is uncomfortable. The Lord's discipline forces us to see ourselves through the eyes of God. None of us are beyond the chastening of the Lord. If we refuse to heed God's correction then judgment will find us.

### Self-discipline or self-control

- James 1:26 *"If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."*

- James 1:27 *"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world."*

Discipline is not a one time experience. This is something we need to work at and refresh on a regular basis. The challenge is for all of us to search the areas in our lives and be honest with ourselves when God reveals areas that need discipline applied. I will be the first to admit there has been many occasions in my life that the Lord has brought things to my attention. Much like our Salvation experience needs to be up to date, so does our self-discipline.

We must keep in mind that there is an amount of discipline needed to be used by the one administering discipline as well. If the authority abuses the discipline

process they themselves become undisciplined. When discipline is properly used it becomes a training/teaching process, not an "I'll show you" session.

Some time ago I read an article from Focus on the Family, and they listed "Five Characteristics of Biblical Discipline." I want to share them with you.

### 1. *The necessity of discipline: to deter destruction*

Hebrews 10:39 *"But we are not of them who draw back unto perdition (\*utter destruction); but of them that believe to the saving of the soul."*

### 2. *The means of discipline: actions and words*

Luke 8:21 *"And he answered and said unto them, My mother and my brethren are these which hear the word of God, and do it."*

### 3. *The motive in discipline: to express love*

Hebrews 12:6 *"For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."*

### 4. *The goal of discipline: to teach obedience; to guide*

2 Timothy 3:15 *"And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus."*

### 5. *The result of discipline: short-term pain and long-term gain*

Hebrews 12:11 *"Now no chastening for the present seemeth to be joyous, but grievous: nevertheless afterward it yieldeth the peaceable fruit of righteousness unto them which are exercised thereby."*

These characteristics stand true whether it is a parent disciplining a child, God disciplining us, self-discipline or a leader administering discipline. Let us put forth our most diligent effort to apply Biblical discipline to our children as well as our personal lives and be willing to receive instruction first from the Lord and then those in authority.

It is such a blessing to have your children in the HPC Kidz Church. Discipline is not a problem during the Kidz Services. All of the Kidz Ministry workers desire to be a Godly example to you and your children.





# A YEAR END LOOK AT QUOTES FROM HPC...

*Proverbs 25:11*

(Compiled by Sister Genell Webb)

... A word fitly spoken is like apples of gold in pictures of silver.

We must take off the garment of heaviness to put on a garment of praise.

*Rev. Ryan Ralston*

I don't want to be a fan, I want to be a follower.

*Bro. Elijah Toro*

Humility is a cure for insecurity.

*Rev. Andrew Astor*

God will do some of His greatest works in the midst of darkness.

*Rev. Ryan Ralston*

Great altar workers have a burden for the altar service and the people in the altar. That burden is born in prayer.

*Bro. Danny Compton*

Follow the nudge: obedience is better than sacrifice.

*Rev. David Webb*

Recipe for revival: We must be humble enough, holy enough, and hungry enough.

*Rev. John Gabbard*

Let me see things I can't see

Let me hear things I can't hear

Let me understand things I can't understand

*Rev. Rusty Johnson*

Most often repeated command of Christ gave His disciples was, "Fear not".

*Rev. Ryan Ralston*

Salvation is free, but from that point on it will cost you everything.

*Rev. John Gabbard*

God knows when you have a reason – God also knows when it's an excuse.

*Sis Debbie Woollett*

Every morning we get up shows God is a God of new things.

*Rev. Rusty Johnson*

I've never been stronger and happier than when my wife is standing beside me and we are in unity.

*Rev. Andrew Astor*

Leaders lead all the time; even when they don't feel like it.

*Rev. David Webb*

Thankfulness brings favor from the Father.

*Bro. Danny Compton*

If it's a habitual thing, it's a heart thing.

*Rev. Jeremy Spurlock*

A nudge isn't necessarily powerful, but you must be close enough to God to know his will and be sensitive.

*Rev. David Webb*

Conduct yourself after the order of Abel.

*Rev. Jeremy Spurlock*

Showing respect will set your course for great things from God.

*Rev. Andrew Astor*

Let it take root and bring forth fruit: the credentials of a conqueror.

*Rev. Jeremy Spurlock*

Be all in to holiness; go all out in worship, to be famous and dangerous.

*Rev. Elijah Taylor*

Today we have country clubs, coffee houses, and theaters; calling them churches. I know they are mega and are making money, but I wonder how spiritual they are.

*Bro. Danny Compton*

To be a great leader, you must first be a great follower.

*Bro. Bolivar Toro*

If I pray and become better, then my church becomes better.

*Rev. David Webb*

There are a lot of sinners that are reborn because someone had a burden to mourn.

*Rev. Andrew Astor*

The vision of the new church has already been realized in a church business meeting when the congregation voted unanimously to be builders.

*Bro. Danny Compton*

A part-time Christian is a full-time sinner.

*Rev. David Webb*



HODGENVILLE  
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CHURCH

*Pentecostal by Experience - Holiness by Choice*