

Good News

From Getwell

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The Truth in Love

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The Getwell congregation sends monthly support to the following:

Tennessee Children's Home, Spring Hill, TN
West Tennessee Children's Home, Pinson, TN
Potter Children's Home, Bowling Green, KY
Children's Homes, Paragould, AR

SCHEDULE OF WEEKLY ACTIVITY

SUNDAY

Bible Study.....9:30 a.m.
Worship.....10:20 a.m.
Worship.....5:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

Bible Study.....7:00 p.m.

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ON THE HOME FRONT

Please consider the following passage as our "On the Homefront" article for this week:

For the kingdom of heaven is as a man travelling into a far country, who called his own servants, and delivered unto them his goods. 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. Then he that had received the five talents went and traded with the same, and made them other five talents. And likewise he that had received two, he also gained other two. But he that had received one went and digged in the earth, and hid his lord's money. After a long time the lord of those servants cometh, and reckoneth with them. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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 strawed: And I was afraid, and went and hid thy talent in the earth: lo, there thou hast that is thine. 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 strawed: Thou oughtest therefore to have put my money to the exchangers, and then at my coming I should have received mine own with usury. Take therefore the talent from him, and give it unto him which hath ten talents. For unto every one that hath shall be given, and he shall have abundance: but from him that hath not shall be taken away even that which he hath. And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth (Matthew 25:14-30).

As we think about the parable of the talents, we see just how important it is to be always abounding in the work of the Lord (1 Cor. 15:58). I know that this is not a typical "On the Homefront" article, but it is no secret that we need to get to work. Let's all work together to spread the Gospel of Christ.

Bradley Smith

From The Desk Of Bradley Smith

Hypothetically Speaking

What is a hypothetical situation? Hypothetical situations have been defined as situations, statements, or questions about something imaginary rather than real. What does this have to do with the Bible? God does not try to confuse us. His Word can be understood and applied to our lives (2 Tim. 3:16-17). It should come as no surprise that some people do not want to follow all of God's commands. People like to make hypothetical scenarios in order to try to get around just simply obeying God. They like to think of the most extreme circumstance to try to avoid fulfilling God's directives. What are some examples?

Obeying the Gospel

Here is a hypothetical scenario: "Suppose that there is a man living in a remote jungle of Africa. No one ever preaches the Gospel to him, in fact, he has no exposure to religion whatsoever. Would that man be lost eternally because he did not obey the Gospel?" Here is a key question to consider, will you or I ever be men living in a remote jungle in Africa with no exposure to religion? Absolutely not. Since we will never be in that situation, why worry about an imaginary man in that scenario and acknowledge that God has commanded all men everywhere to repent (Acts 17:30) and obey the Gospel (Rom. 6:3-4).

Lying

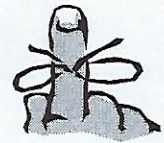
Another hypothetical: "You are a German citizen during the Holocaust, you have Jews hiding in your attic. Do you tell the Nazi soldiers about them, or do you lie to save the lives of the Jews?" I will never be a German citizen during the Holocaust and you will never be a German citizen during the Holocaust. Instead of trying to imagine a scenario where it would be difficult not to lie, why not focus on passages like Colossians 3:9, which says, "Lie not one to another, seeing that ye have put off the old man with his deeds."

Drinking Alcohol

One last hypothetical, and this is one that I have heard people use: "What if a man was getting ready to kill one of your family members unless you took a drink of alcohol?" First, how would you find yourself in that scenario? Probably a few other bad choices. Regardless, how many times does the Bible need to tell us to be sober until we actually understand that we need to be sober?

When we deal in hypotheticals, we lose sight of just doing God's commands, which is our whole purpose in life (Ecc. 12:13-14).

RON'S REMINDERS



Is Your Eternal Destination Too Close To Call?

Here is a sobering heart-stopping truth: God and the Devil are locked in immortal combat for your eternal soul. Let that sink in for a moment. Sometimes we move so fast that we fail to truly grasp the gravity of this specific reality. So let's examine this thought a bit more closely. God, through His precious Son, Jesus Christ, has provided an indescribable haven of eternal rest, peace, and comfort for those who obey His holy Word. Yes, this prepared place is free from sin and unrighteousness for prepared people (John 14:1-6). And on the other hand, the devil has planted IEDs, sensual and sexual reflecting pools, and an "All you can eat" epicurean buffet designed to distract, deceive, and discourage you from seeking the "straight and narrow" path to God. While it should be obvious to all observers which path offers the greatest return on investment-for far too many, it's simply **too close to call** ... The devil has gone 'above and beyond' to make sure that everyone on this spiritual sojourn checks in at the "Palace of Sin," with open, no-limit registration; however, check-out is much, much, harder to do! As a matter of fact, many unsuspecting souls have stopped in for a quick visit - but never checked out. Yes, this is a high stakes contest with eternal consequences.

You would think that countless numbers of people would gladly embrace the "strait and narrow" and look forward to an eternity with God Almighty but it appears that the fleeting pleasures of sin are more alluring. Why then is this competition for the eternal souls of men **too close to call**? I would submit three considerations:

1) **Because the visible has superseded the invisible.** John's spiritual prohibition in 1 John 2:15-17 to steer clear of loving the world and the things that are in the world has fallen on deaf ears. The "I've got to see-it-to-believe-it mentality has short-circuited our ability to grasp/embrace the apostolic

Truth taught in 2 Corinthians 4:18, that the **unseen things are eternal.** Yes, some things must be believed in order to be seen!

- 2) **Because men love darkness more than light.** Jesus provides real insight regarding the veracity of this statement. It is short, succinct, and soul stirring. He said that men loved darkness more than light because their deeds were evil, John 3:19. It doesn't get any clearer than that. It is a sobering, tragic reality that many would prefer the easy way to damnation as opposed to walking in the marvelous light of Christ. By the way, where are you walking today?
- 3) **Because men think they have all the time in the world.** The devil uses two of his most effective tools, procrastination and delay - to keep myriads of souls in his grasp. He markets waiting/stalling like the sinister pro that he is - and the results are always spiritually devastating. In 2 Corinthians 6:2, Paul's clarion admonition to take full advantage of today as the Day of Salvation, is contraposed to the "wait/delay/procrastination" tactic of the devil. And again the results of failing to obey the Gospel - while there is still time - will be spiritually devastating.

We must make every effort to make our calling and election sure. We must take whatever steps necessary to walk in the precious light of Jesus and hold His hand through good times and bad. And when the roll is called up yonder, let's make sure that by God's grace - we will be there! And by means, we certainly don't want this situation to resemble anything that would be **too close to call!**