



F. Y. C.

For Your Consideration

❖ JULY 2019 ❖

All, Not Most!

I saw a cartoon of a man about to be baptized, and the caption read, "All that goes under the water is given to God." The second panel showed a submerged man holding his wallet high up above the water.

While it may be amusing, it makes a point. When one is baptized into Christ, no part of self is to be withheld. We need to make sure that we do not hang onto worldly things and activities that we formerly treasured. Not grudgingly letting go, but considering them rubbish in contrast to what is being gained.

But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ.

Philippians 3:7-8

All Given to the Lord

"I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself up for me."

Galatians 2:20

All, Not Most!

And you shall love the Lord your God with **all** your heart, and with **all** your soul, and with **all** your mind, and with **all** your strength.

Mark 12:30

A LESSON TO BE LEARNED AND APPLIED

Of all the lessons of life that have been difficult for me to learn and properly apply, two stand out in bold relief. (1) Another's opinion or judgment can be different from mine without one of us being considered wrong. And I can have (and need to have) fellowship with brethren who hold contrary opinions. (2) I must make a distinction between my opinions and judgments and what is the doctrine of Christ. My "think-so's" are not to be bound on others nor used as a test of fellowship.

Learning these two lessons and making proper application, paves the way for unity and peace among the followers of Jesus Christ.

NAME CALLING

The use of offensive names especially to win an argument or to induce rejection or condemnation (as of a person or project) without objective consideration of the facts.

— Merriam-Webster Dictionary

Today we hear it all the time. It's nothing new. It has been and is being done in many different situations. Politics and religion seem to be the most prominent today. It brings to mind this Bible passage: *That which has been is that which will be, And that which has been done is that which will be done. So there is nothing new under the sun.* Ecclesiastes 1:9

Name calling reveals more about the one who is doing the name calling. It reveals dislike, contempt, and hatred. It sometimes reveals the exasperation of being unable to answer or rebut something said or done (Don't like the message? Vilify the messenger.)

Words don't magically form in the mouth. They originate in the heart (soul), the inner person. *"Do you not understand that everything that goes into the mouth passes into the stomach, and is eliminated? But the things that proceed out of the mouth come from the heart, and those defile the man. For out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders."*

Matthew 15:17-19

Jesus Called Names Glutton and Drunkard

*"The Son of Man has come eating and drinking, and you say, 'Behold, a **gluttonous man** and a **drunkard**, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!'"*

Luke 7:34

Demon Possessed

*The scribes who came down from Jerusalem were saying, "He is **possessed by Beelzebul**," and "He casts out the demons by the ruler of the demons."*

Mark 3:22

Blasphemer

*The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason, saying, "Who is this man **who speaks blasphemies**? Who can forgive sins, but God alone?"*

Luke 5:21

Christians Called Names

Christians should not be shocked or cower down when they are the object of foul-name calling. It's been that way for a long time and it will continue. Why? Because the battle continues.

For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places.

Ephesians 6:12

Be Prepared. Be Not Ashamed to Defend His Cause

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil.

Ephesians 6:10-11

A Lesson in Song



I'm Not Ashamed to Own My Lord

I'm not ashamed to own my Lord,
Nor to defend His cause;
Maintain the honors of His word,
The glory of His cross.

Jesus, my God! I know His name,
His name is all my trust;
Nor will He put my soul to shame,
Nor let my hope be lost.

Firm as His throne His promise stands,
And He can well secure
What I've committed to His hands,
Till the decisive hour.

Then will He own my worthless name
Before His Father's face,
And in the new Jerusalem
Appoint for me a place.

- Isaac Watts

Something to Understand

"A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a slave above his master. It is enough for the disciple that he become like his teacher, and the slave like his master. If they have called the head of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign the members of his household!"

Matthew 10:24-25

Something to Cherish

"Blessed are you when people insult you and persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of Me."

Matthew 5:11



GOOD ADVICE

This vintage sign was posted at unprotected railroad crossings in years past (and may still be found in some rural areas.).

STOP

Before proceeding, determine if it is safe. Better to avoid problems than to have to clean up the mess afterwards. Will proceeding put me in harms way? Will I be overtaken in a fault?

The naive believes everything, But the prudent man considers his steps.

Proverbs 14:15

LOOK

Observe what is around you. Be aware of what's coming your way. Will proceeding put me in a spiritually inhospitable surrounding?

The highway of the upright is to depart from evil; He who watches his way preserves his life.

Proverbs 16:17

LISTEN

Do you hear any sounds of impending danger? Is your conscience warning you? Are others trying to tell you that it is not best to proceed?

Incline your ear and hear the words of the wise, And apply your mind to my knowledge.

Proverbs 22:17

Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your days.

Proverbs 19:20



Ponder This

A Message of Faith, Hope, and Love

In the world there is a
universal need for faith,
hope, and love.

FAITH

Something to believe in, rely upon, trust—
GIVES PURPOSE TO LIFE.

HOPE

Something to look forward to—
GIVES DIRECTION TO LIFE.

LOVE

Active good will (receiving and giving)—
GIVES MEANING TO LIFE.

Satisfaction of these needs has been sought in
many ways, but only one way avails. The Lord God
who created us knows our needs, and has freely
supplied our needs.

JOHN 3:16

LOVE: For God so loved the world that He gave His
only begotten Son – **FAITH:** whosoever believes in
Him – **HOPE:** should not perish, but have eternal life.

May all come to know the Father through His Son, Jesus, the resurrected Christ.

*“Therefore let all the house of Israel know for certain
that God has made Him both Lord and Christ--this
Jesus whom you crucified.”*

Acts 2:36

May all lovingly trust in Jesus and obey the gospel of Christ.

“If you love Me, you will keep My commandments.”
John 14:15

May all have hope in Him.

*For it is for this we labor and strive, because we have
fixed our hope on the living God, who is the Savior of
all men, especially of believers.*

1 Timothy 4:10



WORD STUDY

enhance your
Bible knowledge

MIND

*“You shall love the Lord your God with all
your heart, and with all your soul, and with all
your strength, and with all your mind; and
your neighbor as yourself.”*

Luke 10:27

How do we carry out this command?



By Keeping His commandments.

*“If you love Me, you will keep My
commandments.”*

John 14:15

By Transforming Our Mind

*And do not be conformed to this world, but be
transformed by the renewing of your mind, so
that you may prove what the will of God is,
that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

Romans 12:2

By Conducting Ourselves in a Worthy Manner

*Only conduct yourselves in a manner worthy
of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come
and see you or remain absent, I will hear of
you that you are standing firm in one spirit,
with one mind striving together for the faith
of the gospel.*

Philippians 1:27

By Being United With Those of Like Precious Faith

*Make my joy complete by being of the same
mind, maintaining the same love, united in
spirit, intent on one purpose.*

Philippians 2:2

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