

# F. Y. C.

**For Your Consideration**

❖ MARCH 2017 ❖

## **‘Why Me? Am I the Only One?’**

*No temptation has overtaken you but such as is common to man; and God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will provide the way of escape also, that you may be able to endure it.*

1 Corinthians 10:13

### **THREE THINGS WE LEARN**

#### **My temptations are not unique.**

I am not to think – "I've been singled out. Woe is me."

#### **I am able to resist.**

I am not to consider myself powerless – "I couldn't avoid it."

#### **I have a way out.**

I am not to regard myself as helpless – "I can't help it."

#### **Yield not to temptation.**

#### **Rather, use it as an opportunity to strengthen your faith.**

*Blessed is a man who perseveres under trial; for once he has been approved, he will receive the crown of life which the Lord has promised to those who love Him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God"; for God cannot be tempted by evil, and He Himself does not tempt anyone. But each one is tempted when he is carried away and enticed by his own lust. Then when lust has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and when sin is accomplished, it brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brethren.*

James 1:12-15

### **CONSIDER THIS**

**Temptation often comes in through a door  
that has been deliberately left open!**

#### **NOTE: THE APOSTLE PAUL**

The book of Acts ends with Paul in Rome under house arrest. What Paul did after his release is outlined on page 2. The details are found in various places in the New Testament. This page, part of the book, "The Life of Paul," is available for downloading on my web site.

# FOLLOWING PAUL'S RELEASE IN ROME

## TRAVELS TO SPAIN?

Tradition says he went to Spain, fulfilling his expressed desire. (Rom.15:28). There is, however, no proof to sustain this view.

## PLACES PAUL VISITED

There is evidence that Paul, at one time or another, went to the following places. However, the exact order is hard to determine.

**Colossae.** Fulfilling his intentions to visit Philemon. Phm.22

**Ephesus**, where he left Timothy; charging him to carry on the work in that area. 1Ti.1:3

**Macedonia**, which would include Thessalonica and Philippi. cf. Phi.2:24

*Paul pens his first letter to Timothy.*

**Crete**, where he leaves Titus to finish the work. Tit.1:5

**Nicopolis**, where he hopes to winter. Titus was to join him there. Tit.3:12

**Miletus**, where he leaves Trophimus sick. 2Ti.4:20

**Troas**, where he leaves behind his cloak and parchments. 2Ti.4:13

**Corinth**, where his helper, Erastus, remained. 2Ti.4:20

## BACK IN ROME

This time as a "criminal" in chains. 2Ti.2:9

Paul sees no hope for his release. 2Ti.4:6-8

The trial has already begun. 2Ti.4:16-18

*Paul writes his second letter to Timothy.*

**Onesiphrous** (from Ephesus) comes in contact with Paul in Rome. 2Ti.1:16-18

**Timothy** is aware that many in Asia oppose Paul. 2Ti.1:15

Phygelus and Hermogenes are specifically mentioned.

Hymenaeus and Philetus are said to have "gone astray." 2Ti.2:17-18

**Demas** deserts Paul, goes to Thessalonica. 2Ti.4:10

Only **Luke** remains with him. 2Ti.4:11

## PAUL'S FELLOW-WORKERS CARRY ON THE WORK

**Crescens** in Galatia. 2Ti.4:10

**Titus** goes to Dalmatia.

**Tychicus** is sent to Ephesus. 2Ti.4:12

**Erastus** remains in Corinth. 2Ti.4:20

**Timothy** is asked to come to Rome by way of Troas; bringing **Mark** with him.  
2Ti.4:11,13

## THINGS TO CONSIDER

The mounting opposition to Paul's authority in Asia.

The importance of having churches organized.

The persecution of the church by Nero.

The contents of 1 Timothy, Titus, and 2 Timothy.

Did Demas forsake Christ, as well as Paul?

Excerpt from "The Life of Paul"  
study booklet available for  
download at  
<http://pdflessons.ra10ar.com>

## FROM MY NOTES

# TITHING

(Literally: the tenth)

The custom of giving a 10th part of the products of the land and of the spoils of war to priests and kings.

## AGE OLD CUSTOM

Evidence of it being practiced in ancient Babylon, Persia, Egypt and probably China. Abraham knew about it when he met Melchizedek. Gen.14:17-20 (Heb.7:4) Samuel warned Israel that the king they demanded would exact tithes from them. 1Sa.8:15,17 Jacob, when he made a covenant with God, promised to tithe. Gen.28:18-22

## TITHING UNDER THE LAW OF MOSES

They were to tithe of all their produce, grain, animals, oil, etc. Deu.14:22 The tenth part of the flocks were to be taken at random. Lev.27:32-33 If unable to transport their tithe, they could sell it and purchase animals, etc., in the town specified. Deu.14:24-26 The Levites were to receive the tithes given by the people. Num.18:21-24; Heb.7:5 It was to be done in all good conscience. Deu.26:12-15

## TITHING WAS ABUSED IN JESUS' DAY

Selling animals to be offered as tithes and sacrifices became "big business." Joh.2:14-16 The Talmudic law of tithing extends the Mosaic Law, with most burdensome minuteness, even to the smallest products of the soil. Of these, according to some, not only the seeds, but, in certain cases, even the leaves and stalks had to be tithed. The general principle was that "everything that is eaten, that is watched over, and that grows out of the earth" must be tithed. The Pharisees paid exact tithes of garden herbs as a symbol of piety. Mat.23:23; Luk.11:42, 18:12

Reference: Smith's Bible Dictionary

# GIVING

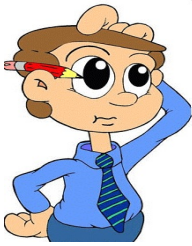
## UNDER THE GOSPEL DISPENSATION

It is not a matter of tithing. There is no set percentage. It's not limited to contributing to the church. Giving is governed by a higher set of guidelines. 2Co.9:6-11

- ➡ To give bountifully.
- ➡ To give willingly.
- ➡ To give as you purpose in your heart.
- ➡ To give cheerfully.
- ➡ To give proportionally. Accordingly to what one has. 2Co.8:12-15

**It's to be a way of life.** *"In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"* Act.20:35

**Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.** Mat.6:21



# Ponder This

## COMMUNICATION

The exchange of thoughts, messages, or information.

Communication requires (1) a sender, and (2) a receiver. Communication breaks down when one or the other is missing.

### COMMUNICATION WITH OTHERS

It's impossible to learn while talking.

It's possible to learn only when listening.

Often we find ourselves broadcasting when we should be tuning in.

*This you know, my beloved brethren. But everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak and slow to anger.*

James 1:19

### COMMUNICATION WITH GOD

God speaks to us through His word.

We need to listen to Him without fail.

We speak to Him through prayer.

We need to speak to Him without ceasing.

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### PROVERBS

*To know wisdom and instruction, to discern the sayings of understanding, to receive instruction in wise behavior, righteousness, justice and equity; to give prudence to the naive, to the youth knowledge and discretion, a wise man will hear and increase in learning, and a man of understanding will acquire wise counsel.*

Proverbs 1:2-5



## WORD STUDY

enhance your  
Bible knowledge

### Abraham's Bosom

*"Now the poor man died and was carried away by the angels to Abraham's bosom; and the rich man also died and was buried.*

*In Hades he lifted up his eyes, being in torment, and saw Abraham far away and Lazarus in his bosom."*

Luke 16:22-23

Abraham's bosom was the place to which the poor man Lazarus was carried by the angels when he died. The Roman custom of reclining at meals was common among the Jews. Such positioning placed one in the bosom of the neighboring person. To be next to the host, that is to recline in the bosom of the host, was considered the highest honor. Thus, to be in Abraham's bosom was to be in a position of honor. In Luke 16:22-23, Abraham's bosom is pictured as a place of blessedness and honor. The poor man was comforted after death by being given the place of closest fellowship with the father of the whole Hebrew nation.

- Holman Bible Dictionary



### WISDOM

*An indication that a person has gained some wisdom is when he realizes that his opinion is just an opinion.*

*How blessed is the man who finds wisdom and the man who gains understanding.*

Proverbs 3:13

**F.Y.C.** is a monthly publication by Ron Adams.

Bible references are from the NASB except where another translation is referenced.

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