THANK YOU, DADDY


Introduction: The Lord created and blessed Adam and Eve. They were our very first parents. He told the couple to replenish the earth. The word REPLENISH does not imply a redoing of something. It means to multiply. God intended for Adam and Eve to have many children. They had three that we know of. We read of Cain, Abel, and Seth. Genesis records these three sons, but it also speaks of Adam begetting sons and daughters after Seth. It has always been a very special time when a man finds out he is going to be a father. It is a cause for great rejoicing and gladness. It is a cause for celebrating. Men love their wives and the fruit of that love is children. It is time for children to thank their fathers or daddies. Let’s notice several reasons why children should thank their fathers.

I. THANKS DADDY, FOR NOT RUNNING OUT ON ME.
   A. The desire.
   1. Some men want to be lovers, but do not want to be fathers. It is high time for boys and men to realize, if you want to be a lover you probably will become a father. If you don’t want the one, you better not take the other.
   2. Some men who swear they love the woman and the ground she walks on, leave as soon as they are told they will be a father. Many women who may be young or old listen and want to believe a man who may not tell them his true feelings.
   3. For several decades couples who couldn’t have children could adopt children. With the abortion laws like they are there are fewer children to adopt today.
   4. There are a great number of children born out of wedlock. The mother and the father chose to give them up in adoption.

   B. The desertion.
   1. Some men who want to be lovers, also become leavers when they find out they will be fathers. Don’t tell me God didn’t know what He was doing when He decreed men and women marry and then multiply.

   2. Many a romance has been ruined by the unwelcome news of a baby birth. Lust leads to the bedroom. Love leads you to the birth room.

   3. Some men leave their wives and run away from their children. They do not want the responsibility of raising a family. They don’t want to provide for the children.

   4. They run away. They run out on the wife and children. They don’t want to have anything to do with them. More men run away than women.

   5. Some children are born to be thrown in a trash can. In the Houston area it is not uncommon to hear on the news of a baby left on someone’s doorstep or in a dumpster. It is sad when a woman gives birth to a child and puts it in a trash bag to be thrown away as waste. Some do because a man refuses to be a father. God still has the best plan for marriage and child raising.

   C. The destruction.
   1. A man and woman become lovers and a baby is conceived and it becomes a problem. People have turned God’s blessing into a burden because they do not obey Him.

   2. When people want the pleasure of sex outside of marriage, a multitude of problems come into view. Many children are born or conceived out of wedlock. They become unwanted children.

   3. The modern answer to unwanted children is abortion. I believe with all of my heart that life begins at conception. When a woman has
an abortion, she is destroying or killing a life that has been conceived and grows within her.

4. Some men talk their girl friends into having an abortion. Get rid of the unwanted problem. This is another form of running out on the child.

D. The delight.

1. It is high time for children to thank their father for not running out on them. They should be grateful that the father wanted to be a father.

2. I am thankful when a young man does become a father outside of marriage, he is willing to make things right with the one he loves and the child that is to be born.

3. You hear so much about bad dads. The good guys are seldom mentioned. Thank God for godly, gracious, grateful fathers who take delight in their children. May their children take delight in them.

II. THANKS DADDY, FOR NOT RUINING ME.

A. The damaging.

1. Some fathers beat up on their children. Even the very young are hit and hurt by fathers who are disturbed in life.

2. Sometimes you hear of them being burned with cigars or put into very hot water. Many fathers take their frustrations and disappointments and anger out on their little ones.

3. Some lock their children up in a closet and nearly starve them to death. I am thankful that there are not many men like that. Some are, but there are a number of men that are not abusers of children.

4. All some children have to face each day is the anger and beatings of a careless and cruel father. These men are not fathers in the truest sense of the word.

B. The Downing.

1. Some fathers blame their children for ruining their lives. All of their failures and faults are caused by their children.

2. They destroy their children with words like dumb, stupid, ignorant etc., which destroys self worth and esteem of a young child.

3. Some children run away from fathers like this. They refuse to stay and receive such cruel and unfatherly attitudes and conduct.

C. The Drink and Drugs.

1. Some fathers teach by example and words that it is all right to drink alcohol and do drugs. Children can follow the example of their father.

2. Even young people become drug addicts and alcoholics because the father taught them to.

3. Doing drugs and drinking has never and will never solve any problem. It will only create more problems. Drink and drugs destroys living, self-esteem, respect, marriages, and human relationship with other people. Those who do such feel bad about themselves and think that others feel the same way about them.

D. The desires.

1. A major problem in our day is family incest. Fathers and step fathers violating the bodies and rights of their daughters or step daughters.

2. It is cold and cruel for fathers and step fathers to go to bed with their own daughters.

3. Some women do not care for marriage due to the hang ups and emotional scars caused by a father who abused them. Such men will be dealt with by the heavenly Father.

4. Fathers even crave their own sons as sex objects.

E. The dedication.

1. It is high time for children to thank their fathers for loving and caring for them as a parent ought to care for his child.

2. The majority of fathers love their children and would not violate their daughters or their sons for anything. They would defend them from any who would want to violate them.

3. It is time for you to take a precious moment and tell your daddy that you thank him for not ruining you.

III. THANKS DADDY, FOR TAKING THE RESPONSIBILITY OF ME.

A. The rejoicing.

1. Fathers are known for pacing back and forth in the waiting room when their child is being born. Today, they can even go into the delivery room and be with the wife as she gives birth.

2. A tradition has been to hand out cigars upon the birth of a child among fathers for years. The birth of a child has caused great joy to the father.

3. Some men are willing to take on a family with a wife. Some men are willing to marry women who have children. Some men are willing to adopt a precious child to raise and provide and love as his very own.

4. A father at heart loves a child. He is willing to provide for that child. He is willing to share his life with that child. That is what being a father is all about.

B. The responsibility.

1. A man must be responsible to the woman he goes to bed with. He must be willing to
commit himself to her in marriage. Pity the woman who is willing to settle for anything less than a full commitment.
2. He must also be responsible for the fruit or result or conception of a child. Children are the fruit of love.
3. The father is to provide for his children. The basics have always been food, clothes, and house or shelter. More important than these material things is love, a godly example, and teaching the child how to live and the way to live according to the Word of God.

C. The respectability.
1. The father is to teach his children to be respectable in life. They are to respect others and self.
2. The father is to be an example of respectability to his children. It has never been easy to be an example. We too are weak and need God’s grace and strength to try to be an example to our children.
3. They are to be brought up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord. They are to be taught and trained in the ways of the Lord by the father.
4. Fathers can’t make their children live right and respectful, but we can teach them by word and example. We also can pray for them.
5. It is time for children to thank their fathers for teaching them responsibility. To get the most out of life you must be responsible and respectful.

IV. THANKS DADDY, FOR TEACHING ME RIGHT FROM WRONG.

A. The Word of God
1. There are a lot of different ideas in life that you can choose from. The worldly crowd will always lead you away from God and His truth.
2. You can live your life the way you want to. Write your own rule book. Whatever you want to do, do it. If God doesn’t control our desires and wants, then we will want and desire the wrong things.
3. The best advice you can receive in all of life is contained in the Holy Word of God. No one has or can improve upon the plan and way of God when looking at life.
4. The Bible touches on every aspect of life and living. It informs us on right and wrong. It tells us the truth. It gives us a choice and warns us about the wrong choices.
5. Thank God for fathers who teach their children the Word of God. Fathers teach right and wrong because they love their children.

B. The way of grace.
1. If you want to stay out of trouble, listen to God and live His way. God’s way is the best way. God who is all knowing and wise has given the way to us.
2. Some fathers teach their children how to lie, steal, and deceive. How terrible to teach a child how to get into trouble and stay in trouble for this brief life.
3. God’s way is a better way to do things. You cannot go wrong doing right things like God wants you to do.
4. The ways of the Lord tend to life and living. They help us to live fully and completely.

C. The wonder of glory.
1. Each of us will stand before the Lord, the righteous Judge, and our lives reviewed. The Lord will judge our works to see what sort they were.
2. It will be a better and brighter day for those who know the Lord and live for Him.
3. Thank the Lord for fathers who teach and live the right way before their children. We have a precious promise in Proverbs 22:6.
4. God help us fathers to depend upon the Lord and share our faith with our children.
5. It is time for children to thank their fathers for setting the right example for them to follow. Good fathers can have bad children. If they choose to go wrong, may they go wrong with a father loving them and telling them the right way.

PROPER UNDERSTANDING OF THE SONSHIP RELATIONSHIP


Introduction:

A. The PROBLEM - The Judiaizers were attempting to bring the Galatians back under bondage. They said you had to be circumcised and keep the law of Moses in order to be saved.

B. The PROPOSAL - Classification of those involved in religious activities.
1. Those who believe that our acceptance and approval by God is on the basis of our own merits - what we can do!
2. Those who believe that our acceptance and approval by God is on the basis of the merits and ministry of Jesus Christ - what He has done!

C. The PRESENTATION - The Apostle Paul is deeply concerned with the spiritual welfare of the saints of God and the correct advancement of God's work.


A. The COMPARISON - Gal. 4:1-3 "Now I say, that the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he be Lord of all: V-2 but is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the FATHER. V-3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world."

1. Comparison of the child and servant.
2. The term 'child' is used to describe one who is under the law.
3. He is under a guardian - he is not really free.

B. The COMING of Christ. Gal. 4:4,5 "But when the fullness of the time was come, GOD sent forth his SON, made of a woman, made under the law, V-5 to redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons."

2. God's love demonstrated - V4b.
3. God's miraculous intervention - V4c - The Virgin Birth.

4. God's purpose in this intervention - V5a.
   a. The Lord Jesus was BORN UNDER the law - LIVED UNDER the law, and DIED UNDER the penalty of the law which we broke, and in paying our penalty, He delivered us from any claims which the law had against us.
   b. Redeem - means to buy out of the slave market.

5. God's marvelous transaction - V5b.
   a. God is now looked upon as a Father instead of merely a judge.
   b. This deals with our family relationship with God through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. The CONVERSION - Gal. 4:6,7 "And because ye are sons, GOD hath sent forth the spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, ABBA, FATHER. V7 wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son: and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ."

1. John 1:12.
2. I John 5:1.
3. Our position as sons frees us from the bondage of the law.

4. Our position as heirs is not attributed to any personal merit of our good works but to the grace of God.

II. THE TRAGEDY THAT HE Sought TO PROHIBIT. Gal. 4:8-10.

A. The PAST CONDITION - Gal. 4:8 "Howbeit then, when ye knew not God, ye did service unto them which by nature are no gods."

1. They were in bondage to a system of legalism.

B. Their PRESENT CONDITION - Gal. 4:9a "But now, after that ye have known God, or rather are known of God,"

C. The PROBLEM CHOICE - Gal. 4:9b-10 "How turn ye again to the weak and beggarly elements, whereunto ye desire again to be in bondage? V-10 Ye observe days, and months, and times, and years."

1. They were at the point of making a choice that would put them back into bondage.

III. THE TASK OF PAUL. Gal. 4:11-20.

A. The FRUITLESS task. Gal. 4:11 "I am afraid of you, lest I have bestowed upon you labor in vain."

B. The FAULTY behavior would hurt only themselves. Gal. 4:12 "Brethren, I beseech you, be as I am: for I am as ye are: ye have not injuried me at all."

C. The FORCEFUL reminder. Gal. 4:13-18 "Ye know how through infirmity of the flesh I preached the gospel unto you at the first. V-14 and my temptation which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected: but received me as an angel of God, even as Christ Jesus. V-15 Where is then the blessedness ye spake of? For I bear you record, that if it had been possible, Ye would have plucked out your own eyes, and have given them to me. V-16 Am I therefore become your enemy, because I tell you the truth? V-17 They zealously affect you, but not well: yea, they would exclude you, that ye might affect them. V-18 But it is good to be zealously affected always in a good thing, and not only when I am present with you."

D. The FULLNESS concept. Gal. 4:19,20 "My little children of whom I travail in birth again until Christ be formed in you. V-20 I desire to be present with you now, and to change my voice: for I stand in doubt of you."

1. This deals with christian growth.
2. The gospel message not only deals with redemption - it deals with transformation. Romans 1:16 and Romans 6:1-4.
3. It all embraces a matter of grace and faith.
A. The COMPARISON MANIFESTED. Gal. 4:21-27 "Tell me, ye that desire to be under the law, do ye not hear the law? V-22 For it is written, that Abraham had two sons, the one by a bondmaid, the other by a freewoman. V-23 But he who was of the bondwoman was born after the flesh: but he of the freewoman was by promise. V-24 which things are an allegory: for these are the two covenants: the one from the Mount Sinai, which gendereth to bondage, which is Agar. V-25 for this Agar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and answereth to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children. V-26 But Jerusalem which is above is free, which is the mother of us all. V-27 For it is written, rejoice thou barren that bearest not: Break forth and cry, thou that travailest not: For the desolate hath many more children than she which hath an husband."  
B. The CONCEPT EXPLAINED. Gal. 4:28-31 "Now we, brethren, as Isaac was, are the children of promise. V-29 But as then he was born after the flesh persecuted him that was born after the SPIRIT, Even so it is now. V-30 nevertheless what saith the scriptures? Cast out the bondwoman and her son: for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the freewoman. V-31 So then, brethren, we are not children of the bondwoman, but of the free."  

Conclusion: Freedom does not mean inactivity, but rather it embraces an intimate walk with the living Christ which will enhance, enrich, and equip us for a life of victory, excitement, and usefulness.  

BEAUTIFUL AND PROFITABLE CHURCH SERVICES  

Text: Ephesians 5:14-21  
Introduction:  
A. Church services should:  
B. Proper church services---  
1. Exalt Christ (Elevate, raise high, and glorify).  
2. Edify the church of God. I Cor. 14:12.  
3. Exhort (Incite by appeal) the congregation! Hebrews 10:25 'NOT FORSAKING THE ASSEMBLING OF OURSELVES TOGETHER, AS THE MANNER OF SOME IS; BUT EXHORTING ONE ANOTHER: AND SO MUCH THE MORE, AS YE SEE THE DAY APPROACHING."  
C. A church service is both BEAUTIFUL AND PROFITABLE when---  

I. ENTHUSIASM (Intense interest, feeling, emotion) IS BOTH SEEN AND FELT.  
A. Serving as VICTORIOUS people who have been given victory over satan, sin, and self.  
1. Col. 1:12,13 "giving thanks unto the Father, which hath made us meet to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in light: who hath DELIVERED US from the power of darkness, and hath TRANSLATED US INTO THE KINGDOM OF HIS DEAR SON."  
3. Phil. 4:13.  
B. Serving with VIGOR AND VITALITY!!!  
1. COLOSSIANS 3:23,24 "AND WHATSOEVER YE DO, DO IT HEARTILY, AS TO THE LORD, AND NOT UNTO MEN; KNOWING THAT OF THE LORD YE SHALL RECEIVE THE REWARD OF THE INHERITANCE: FOR YE SERVE THE LORD CHRIST."  
2. Christians are to do this OUTSIDE OF CHURCH! Ephesians 6:7,8 "WITH GOOD WILL DOING SERVICE, AS TO THE LORD, AND NOT TO MEN: KNOWING THAT WHATSOEVER GOOD THING ANY MAN DOETH, THE SAME SHALL HE RECEIVE OF THE LORD, WHETHER HE BE BOND OR FREE."  

II. WHEN THE SERVICE IS ENLIVENING (Makes vigorous, active, or cheerful).  
A. Expressions of joy for the blessing of being in the service. Psalm 122:1.  
B. Exhortations to remember the THREE CHEERS.  
2. Cheer of Christ’s PURGING OF SINS. Matt. 9:2 "Son, be of good cheer; THY SINS BE FORGIVEN THEE."  
3. Cheer of Christ’s POWER. John 16:33 "THESE THINGS HAVE I SPOKEN UNTO YOU, THAT IN ME YE MIGHT HAVE PEACE. IN THE WORLD YE SHALL HAVE TRIBULATION: BUT BE OF GOOD CHEER; I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD."
C. Encouragements to REJOICE anywhere!!!
   2. Rejoice in the SAVIOUR! Phil. 4:4 "REJOICE IN THE LORD ALWAYS: AND AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE."

III. WHEN THE SERVICE IS ENLIGHTENING.
   A. When it is INSPIRING! (Full of the Word, II Timothy 3:16,17) Hebrews 10:24.
   B. When it is INFORMATIVE!
   C. When it is INSTRUCTIVE! Col. 3:16.

IV. WHEN IT IS ENCOURAGING.
   A. When it HELPS. Psalm 73:16,17; Isaiah 6:1 (Helped Isaiah see the LORD, HIMSELF AND HIS NEEDS, AND THE NEEDS OF HIS FELLOWMAN;)
   B. When it brings HOPE. I Thess. 4:16-18.
   C. When it HEALS (RESTORES AND RECONCILES).
   D. When it POINTS HOMEWARD!!! John 14:1-3.

V. WHEN IT IS ENRICHING.
   A. When it FEEDS BOTH MILK AND MEAT.
      2. I Peter 2:2.
   B. When it FUELS (Gives answers) I Peter 3:15.
   D. When FAITH is increased. (Prayer of the disciples) "LORD, INCREASE OUR FAITH." LUKE 17:5.

VI. WHEN THE SERVICE ENRAPTURES.
   (Transports to a higher plane, CAPTIVATES THE MIND AND SOUL, GLADDENS THE HEART, DELIGHTS, RESULTS IN REJOICING IN EARTH AND HEAVEN.)
   A. I always remember hearing the late G.D. Walters tell of the country farmer, who lived just outside the city limits, when the church of his membership was taken into the city. He had ALWAYS SHOUTED IN CHURCH. HE DIDN'T QUIT when the church became a city church. His pastor and some deacons decided to go talk to the brother out of shouting in the church since it was a city church. They made their visit on Saturday morning when the farmer was plowing in his cotton field. He was glad to see them! They told of their mission. He was saddened and began to explain why he always shouted in church. He said, "When you preach about my wearing a crown instead of this old straw hat with a hole in the top; and my wearing a white robe in the place of the patched overalls; and my wearing golden slippers instead of the old shoes with holes in the soles; and our walking streets of gold, hearing the heavenly choir sing about the Lamb of God who made it possible for us to be there; and then you say we are going to see Jesus as He is...HOLD MY MULE I'M GONNA SHOUT RIGHT HERE IN THIS OLD HOT, DUSTY, COTTON FIELD!!!"
   B. When we are reminded of REDEMPTION AND CLEANSING from all our sins...I AM RAISED TO HIGHER PLANES! Eph. 1:7 "IN WHOM WE HAVE REDEMPTION THROUGH HIS BLOOD, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, ACCORDING TO THE RICHES OF HIS GRACE;"
   C. When we remember our RIGHTEOUSNESS AND RELATIONSHIP to the Lord in Christ, we are lifted to higher planes of living! II Cor. 5:21; Galatians 2:20; I John 3:1,2.
   D. When we hear of the certain RETURN OF JESUS WITH BOTH REDEMPTION FOR OUR BODIES AND REWARD FOR OUR FAITHFULNESS IN SERVICE, we can enter into the spirit of the apostle Peter, when he said, "LORD, IT IS GOOD FOR US TO BE HERE...LET US BUILD HERE...AND NEVER LEAVE!!!" Matt. 17:4.

THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST
By Neal Clark


Introduction: The Lord himself declared that He will come again. In Acts 1, the angels said that Jesus would come again. The apostles preached that Christ will come again.

   A. His coming is sure. John 14:3.
   B. His coming is sealed. II Timothy 2:19.
   C. His coming is solemn.

   A. Personal return. I Thessalonians 4:16.

   A. We are to work. John 9:4.
   B. We are to witness. Acts 1:8.
   C. We are to watch. Mark 13:35.
A. Socially - II Timothy 3:1-4.
B. Religiously - II Timothy 3:5.
C. Educationally - II Timothy 3:7.

V. THE COMFORT OF HIS COMING - I Thessalonians 4:18.
A. Comfort in the person of Christ.
B. Comfort in the promise of Christ.
C. Comfort in the power of Christ.

HOGS, DOGS, AND THE WRATH OF GOD
By Richard Spruill

Text: II Peter 2:10-22.

Introduction:

A. Why has religion become so diversified?
   1. Everyone sees his needs and life as being different from all others.
   2. Anyone can start his own denomination simply by presenting ideas men want to hear.

B. Every child of God needs to understand the gravity of any association with false teachers.

C. These ministries are blossoming around us.
   1. Flowers blossom and bring great beauty to the earth.
   2. Weeds blossom also, and bring sorrow to one who appreciates true beauty.

D. The born again child of God has nothing in common with the false teachers of worldly principles.

E. The child of God can better understand the plight of the false teachers by observing the three areas presented by Peter.

I. THE DESCRIPTION OF FALSE TEACHERS
A. They walk in unclean fleshly lusts. V10.
B. They despise authorities. V10.
C. They are presumptuous darers. V10.
D. They are self willed and self pleasing. V10.
E. They speak evil of things which they know not. V12.
F. They are as unthinking brute beasts about the things of God. V12.
G. They are unrighteous and revell; in the daytime. V13.
H. They are defiling spots and blemishes to believers. V13.
I. They are enslaved to adulterous lusts and sins. V14.
J. They have hearts exercised and trained to get their way. V14.
K. They are cursed children. V14.
L. They are going the way of Balaam. V15.
M. They are slaves of corruption. Dogs! Hogs! V19,22.

N. No one would dare say to Peter, "If you can't say something good, don't say anything."

II. THE DANGERS OF FALSE TEACHERS
A. They defile believers' fellowship. V13.
B. They beguile unsteadfast believers into false religion. V14.
C. They make merchandise of believers for the wages of unrighteousness. V15,3.
D. They damn lost souls who depend upon them. V17.
E. They allure and destroy lost souls who are about to turn from sin. V18.

III. THE DOOM OF FALSE TEACHERS.
A. Their doom shall be as appropriate for brute beasts like which they live. V12.
B. They shall perish in their own corruption. V12.
C. They shall receive the reward of unrighteousness. V15; Matt. 25:41.
D. They have eternal reservations in the mist of darkness. V17.
E. Their latter end is worse than their beginning. V20.

ANOTHER NEW BOOK:
We have finished printing Bro. George Crawford's book entitled THE PREACHING OF THE CROSS. Send in for your free copy today!

WHAT CAN WE DO IN VIEW OF THE LAST DAYS?
By B.A. Morris

Text: Jude 17-23.

Introduction:

A. There is an emphasis through the book of Jude.
   1. Christians are to contend for the faith.
   2. Apostates are polluting the Word and other people.

B. What can we do in view of these two things? WE CAN REMEMBER. V17.

I. A. We have a problem of not holding in the mind what we hear about God. Hebrews 2:1.
   B. We need to give a lot of thought to things.
      1. We need to remember words of Jesus Christ. Matthew 10:16.
      2. We need to remember words of the apostles. Acts 20:29.
      3. We need to remember words of our pastor.
      4. We need to remember our church experiences.

II. WE CAN BE EDUCATED. V17-19.
   A. We need to know who they (apostates) are. V18.
      1. To mock means to act in the behavior of a child.
2. There is a difference in child-likeness and childliness.
3. Childliness is an adult giving gestures and behavior patterns like a little kid.
4. The soldiers mocked Jesus Christ as king when they plaited a crown of thorns and put on the head of Jesus Christ.
5. Peter admonished us to react accordingly (know) to mockers in the last days. II Peter 3:3.

B. We need to know what they do. V19.
1. They act in the natural nature of mankind (sensual-natural).
   a. Mankind without salvation has natural nature. I Cor. 2:14.
   b. Jude said acts and reacts as an animal. 10b.
   c. Their conduct is according to lust. 18b.
2. They cause divisions (separate). V19a.

III. WE MUST BE INSULATED. V20,21.
A. The Word of God edifies us inwardly, V20a. It is a building that never stops.
B. Prayer to God is supplication looking upwardly, 20b. It is a praying that never ceases.
C. Anticipation of the second coming of Jesus Christ is our looking forward. 20c. This anticipation increases daily.

IV. WE MUST MAINTAIN SEPARATION. V22,23.
We must be separate from the contamination of last days. We must not separate self from those whom we can help.
A. There are some who are sincere doubters who can be helped compassionately. V22 (And on some have compassion making a distinction (sincere doubters).
   1. Compassion means to put one’s self in place of another to suffer with that person.
   2. "People do not care how much we know until they know how much we care."
   3. These people are weak believers.
   4. This type of doubter is a victim to a heretic who shows care.
B. There are some who must be dealt with courageously. V23a (and others save with fear pulling them out of fire.)
   1. These are near the fires of hell.
   2. No person should be considered hopeless.
C. There are some who should be dealt with cautiously. 23b (hating garments spotted by flesh).
   1. We must be cautious about being tempted ourselves.
   2. We must not compromise in an effort to win someone.
   3. We must love the sinner and hate the sin.

FOUR BIBLICAL DESIRES
By Devin Ward

Text: Colossians 1:1-12

Introduction: It’s almost funny what people desire out of life. Most of the time the Lord and His will is not even among our first wishes or our first desires. Many wish for good health for themselves and their family. Others desire a great sum of money to pay off their bills, while others want things such as friends and happiness. These are all right in their place, but in this letter to the Colossians, there are four things that Paul and Timothy would have to be true of their lives. These things are of great importance to us as well. Let’s look at them. WE SHOULD DESIRE:

I. TO BE FILLED WITH THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOD’S WILL. V9.
A. We need to be fully acquainted with what the Lord would have us to do. Acts 9:6.
B. God does expect something of your life. We should know what it is. Ephesians 6:17.

II. TO WALK WORTHY OF THE LORD. V10.
A. What good is it to know God’s will unless we perform it in our lives?
B. What does it mean to "walk worthy of the Lord?"
   1. Not worthy of Christ, salvation, never worthy of this.
   2. Simply, we must act, live the way christians ought to. Example-In military service - would not disgrace what your uniform represented. Should be no different in the Lord’s army.

III. TO BE STRENGTHENED WITH ALL MIGHT. V11.
A. Not our might, but God’s might. David told Goliath, "This day will the Lord deliver thee unto mine hand."
B. Trust in the Lord always brings victory.

IV. TO GIVE THANKS UNTO GOD. V12.
A. Thank God for all He has done, is doing, and will do.
B. Greatest thanks should go for the gift of eternal life. V12.

Conclusion: Do you desire to know God’s will? Are you walking worthy of the Lord? or His blessings?