

Make Church a Part of Your Life

WEEKLY SERMONETTE

“Proclaiming Freedom in Christ”

By Preacher/Teacher Terry Laughlin, CrossRoads Ministries

LIVING RESPONSIBLY BEFORE CHRIST AND MEN – PART 6/DO SOMETHING

1 Peter 2:16, “Live as free men, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as servants of God. The King James Bible translates 1 Peter 2: 15-16 as, “For so is the will of God, that with well doing ye may put to silence the ignorance of foolish men: As free, and not using your liberty for a cloak of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.”

Grace that comes from God to the repentant sinner is not a license to continue to sin. Therefore, it is not to be used as fire insurance to save people from the gates of hell even though they choose to stay enslaved to sin. The flesh, this world’s view and the devil convince people that they have freedom to live as they like. Jesus pointed out this way of thinking was not true. The truth is that unrepentant sinners are in bondage – but in Christ repentant sinners are set free to choose whom they want to be enslaved.

Through Romans 6:16-23 the Lord wants you to:

1.) Learn Something. Born again Christians shall not be dominated by sin. Every day the Christian has the authority to pray, “Lord, ‘Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me.’” (Psalm 119:133) This

prayer is found in Psalm 119 which gives praise to God for His word and gives the only way of living pure in God’s sight, by living according to the Word of

God. There are only two choices on the shelf: become a slave to sin by not prayerfully reading and meditating upon the Word of God or become a slave to

righteousness in Christ by prayerfully meditating upon and obeying the written Word of God.

2.) Know Something. You can only serve one master. Jesus said, “No one can serve two masters; for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.” (Luke 16:13 NAS) “Wealth,” (mammonas) here is placing your value on what you own, making your life’s vision to gain possessions and/or fame. It is the worship of materialism. (Complete Word Study of the New Testament) I remember when Arabian Horses were my god. They still are a god to many. I nailed horseshoes on horse’s feet for the purpose of serving man’s idols, for fame and for the hope of getting wealthy. After becoming a Christian I learned stewardship. Then I enjoyed the liberty of trimming horse’s feet and nailing horseshoes on because those horses belong to the Lord and I was taking care of His possessions. Know for a fact, people can choose slavery to the world’s view or choose slavery to Christ by making time to learn Biblical stewardship.

Shadows



Have you ever awakened in the night with the moonlight streaming through the window and suddenly, out of the corner of your eye, seen something move? In the dark you are afraid, but switch on the light and it’s gone, it was just a shadow.

We are often afraid of the dark and unknown; what if we could always have a lamp? Psalm 119:105 tells us, “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” With regular Bible reading, prayer, and weekly worship, those things that frighten us will diminish as our faith and knowledge of God’s power and love increases. God can light the shadows in our lives.

Weekly Scripture Reading				
Proverbs 25:1–28	Joshua 1:1–18	Joshua 2:1–24	Joshua 3:1–17	Joshua 20:1–9
			Joshua 23:1–16	Joshua 24:1–33
Scriptures Selected by the American Bible Society				
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