



THE BROOKSVILLE BULLETIN

Brooksville church of Christ
604 W. Fort Dade Avenue, Brooksville, FL

October 31, 2021

Making Bricks Of Mud **(Robert F. Turner)**

Paul was set upon by a mob, then dragged from their hands by police. Falsely charged, he spent almost two years in Jewish prisons and was then sent to Rome to appear before Caesar. His traveling days ended, and threatened with death by savage beasts (2 Timothy 4:17), we could understand his being depressed and feeling "all is lost." Instead, he wrote to the Philippians, "the things which happened unto me have fallen out rather unto the furtherance of the gospel" (1:12-21). He could write, "I rejoice!"

Discounting his personal discomforts, he saw the good side of the bad — saw victory in defeat. I know his selflessness, his trust in the Lord, is the key. "For me to live is Christ, and to die is gain." Paul had to learn this attitude; but I am impressed that he learned it so well it seems to have become a part of

him. He "learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content" (4:11); and this kind of thinking spawned hope instead of despair.

Throw mud at Paul and he made bricks of it and built a house. Send him lemons, and he would enjoy the lemonade and thank you

for them. It is hard to defeat a person with such an attitude as that. We do not refer to an artificial Pollyannaish attitude, out of touch with reality. Paul sought



relief from his "thorn in the flesh" (2 Corinthians 12:8), but when this was denied him he could "glory in my infirmities" making the most of them in defending his apostleship (vv7-11). He did not enjoy being forsaken by his brethren any more than do we, but he could "pray God that it may not be laid to their charge" (2 Timothy 4:16-17). He was confident that the Lord would save him.

Nor is this simply the SELF reliance, "indomitable ego" that is so highly recommended by psychotherapists. Human philosophies

"plug in" to no higher source than man himself, and when society fails (as it does repeatedly), the individual despairs sometimes ends it all in suicide. But the "look up" attitude of a true believer in God removes fear of the future, his soul is anchored (Hebrews 6:18-20), and he "shall not be moved." As one rancher friend of mine put it: "Things are going to pick up!"



Here Are Ten Reasons Why I Don't Go To Football Games:

1. The coach never came to visit me.
2. The seats were not very comfortable.
3. Every time I went, they asked me for money.
4. The referees made a decision I didn't agree with.
5. The people sitting next to me were not very friendly.
6. My parents forced me to go to games when I was young.
7. There were too many hypocrites who attended the ball game.

8. Some games went into overtime, so I was late getting back home.
9. I read a book on football, so I know more than the coaches, anyway.
10. I don't take my kids--so they can make up their own minds about sports.

People will make all kinds of excuses for not gathering with the saints of God for worship. The reason people refuse to assemble is not a game. God requires His children to assemble on the first day of every week to remember His Son. The biggest motivation to assemble is not because we are commanded; but because we want to be with God's people. At the end of the day, most people do what they want to do, even about football games.

Living To Be Like Him: Perfecting Holiness In Our Lives (Ron Drumm)

Toward the end of his life, the apostle Peter, under the guidance of the Holy Spirit, wrote these words, "but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, 'Be holy, for I am holy.'" (1 Peter 1:15-16).

Can we actually be holy? Why is it that we feel holiness is unattainable? How could Peter make such a plea? Look at Peter's life – he was rebuked by Jesus after confessing Him to be the Son of the Living God (Matthew 16:13-23); he denied the Lord three times after saying he would die for Him (Matthew 26:33-35, 69-75); and sinned concerning his treatment of the Gentiles when the Jewish leaders came around (Galatians 2:1-10).

Maybe the problem comes from our misunderstanding of holiness. We often consider it to be perfection in our actions, and that perfection to us seems impossible. Holiness means purity, being blameless, set apart for God's use, or sanctification (1 Corinthians 6:11; 2 Thessalonians 2:13-17). This definition does not indicate living perfectly, but rather it describes living a life dedicated to God.

Our character and attitude are in view. Paul expressed it this way, "Therefore, having these promises, beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God" (2 Corinthians 7:1). It is a Spirit guided process we endeavor to follow that brings about holiness in our lives.

Holiness is attainable. This is why Peter, in all of his sins and failures, could call us to be holy, as God is holy. It is a choice. I'm a

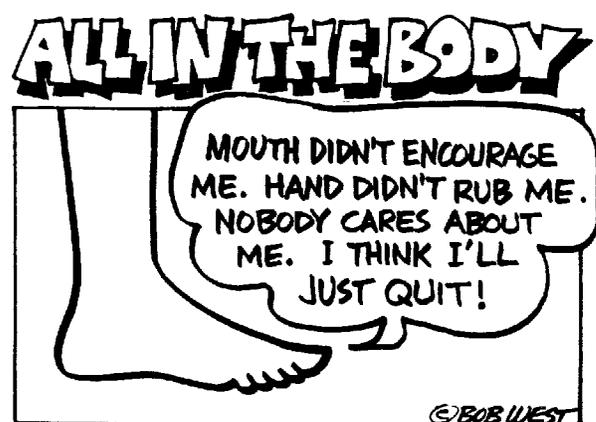
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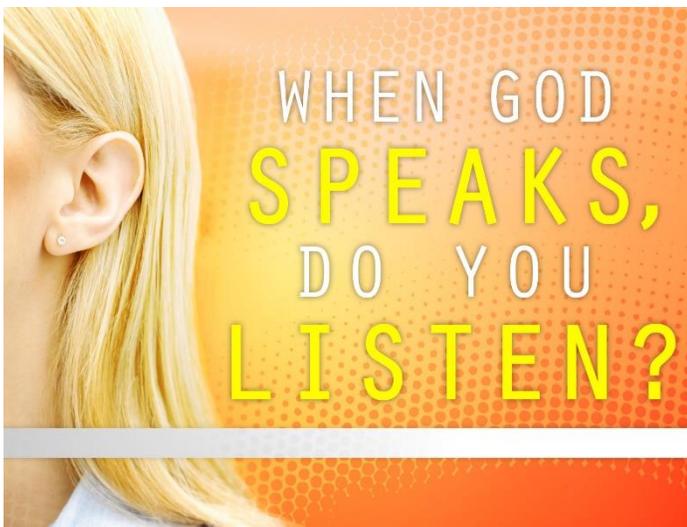
Some Love Darkness



vessel for God's exclusive use, or I allow myself to be the devil's tool. We are not created to be useless and worthless. We have been created in Christ Jesus to be God's workmanship — people allowing themselves to be molded into holy servants of Christ (Ephesians 2:10).

It is our desire to glorify the God of heaven in every aspect of our lives. We are to "put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness" (Ephesians 4:24). So, "pursue peace with all people, and holiness, without which no one will see the Lord" (Hebrews 12:14).





The Family Of King David (John H. Walton)

ANCESTRY

(Ruth 4:18-22; 1 Chronicles 2:1-15)

Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Judah, Perez, Hezron, Ram, Amminadab, Nahshon, Salmon, Boaz, Obed, Jesse, DAVID.

SIBLINGS OF DAVID

(2 Samuel 3:2-5; 5:14-16; 1 Chronicles 3:5-8) Eliab, Abinadab, Shammah, Nethanel, Raddai, Ozem, DAVID.
(Sisters Zeruah and Abigail)

WIVES OF DAVID

Ahinoam, Abigail, Maacah, Haggith, Abital, Eglah, Bathsheba, various concubines.

SONS OF DAVID

Amnon (killed by Absalom), Chileab (died in youth), Absalom (killed by Joab), Adonijah (deposed by Solomon), Shephatiah, Ithream, Solomon, Shimea, Shobab, Nathan. Children by concubines: Ibhar, Elishama, Eliphelet, Nogah, Nepheg, Japhia, Eliada, Elishama, Eliphelet.



I WAS GLAD WHEN THEY SAID TO ME, "LET US GO INTO THE HOUSE OF THE LORD."

(PSALM 122:1)

We don't change God's message.
His message changes us.

Suffering with truth decay? Brush up on your Bible.

Exercise daily. Walk with the Lord.

There's no sense aiming for a goal with no arrow in your bow.

Brooksville Church of Christ

604 W. Fort Dade Avenue – P. O. Box 751 – Brooksville, Florida 34605
352-796-9803 / Brooksvillechurch@gmail.com / www.Brooksvillecoc.com

Times of Services

Sunday Bible Class for all ages (10:00am)

Sunday Worship all Welcome (11:00am & 6:00pm)

Wednesday Bible Class for all ages (7:00pm)

Supporting the GOSPEL in other places:

↪ Jamey Hinds, Hollywood, Florida; Roy Fenner, Panama City, Florida

↪ Zeke Flores, Columbus, Texas; The saints in Nicaragua

Contact Kent Heaton (352-283-3889) heatonkent@bellsouth.net