

THE BIBLE VIEW

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Some Good Advice

Bill Brinkworth

In Paul's concluding remarks to the Galatians (Galatians 6), he left them with some good advice. His godly wisdom is good for all, even today, to keep in mind and practice. His counsel included:

- If someone has a weakness and if you are a spiritual person, help him with his problem. That advice is contrary to what so many do when one is having difficulties (Gal. 6:1). Too many talk about the dilemma of those that are hurting, ridicule them, blame them for their failures, and "kick them" when they are down, instead of helping them up. Much of the time those judging others do not know both sides of the story and are wrong in their assessment of the situation.
- Take other's hardships to your own heart. Bear the burdens of others (Gal. 6:2) as if they were your very own. There will be a time you will have difficulties, and you will wish others would enter the throne room of God on your behalf.
- No matter how successful you think you are, do not fool yourself into thinking you are better than you are (Gal. 6:3).
- Hardships and trials are difficult and exhausting, but when you get through the trial you will feel better about yourself (Gal. 6:4-5). Too many try to keep others from learning that valuable lesson in life by making it easier for them and not allowing them to go through the valley that will teach them important life lessons. Those people never experience the joy of getting victory over the difficulty. Many times, facing a problem by yourself can cause a person to get closer and more reliant on God, which may be why God allowed one to go through the valley.
- Never forget or be fooled, one always reaps what he sows! If one plants a crop of sin, he will reap the harvest of some rotten "fruit" (Gal. 6:7-8)!
- Do not quit doing right! You may feel that there is no reward in doing so or that no one may ever give you credit for doing right, but God promises, in time, you will reap the blessings of a good "crop" (Gal. 6:9)!
- Be a blessing to others, especially other Christians (Gal. 6:10)!

Those seven bits of advice will make one's life more rewarding and would limit a lot of unnecessary, bad consequences many face. Paul's wisdom, if followed, would result in fewer selfish people and more others-oriented, content, fulfilled Christians.

“Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.”

1 Corinthians 15:58

Divine Guidance

Abraham Lincoln

If it were not for my belief in an overruling Providence, it would be difficult for me, in the midst of such complications, to keep my reason on its seat. I am confident that the Almighty has His plans and will work them out; and, whether we see it or not, they will be the wisest and best for us. I have always taken counsel of Him, and referred to Him my plans, and have never adopted a course of proceeding without being assured, as far as I could be, of His approbation. I should be the most presumptuous blockhead in this life if I, for one day, thought that I could discharge the duties which have come upon me since I came into this place (*as president*), without the aid and enlightenment of One who is wiser and stronger than all others.

“Always seek spiritual advice from one that you look up to spiritually!” — B. B.

Wisdom from God’s Word

Bill Brinkworth

Paul learned what he knew and taught because God revealed it to him (Eph. 3:3). The people did not have the means to learn God’s commandments unless it came directly from a God-appointed delivery-man. The compiled Word of God was not available at that time, so Paul was that man God used to teach them.

“How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,”
Eph. 3:3

As Paul learned and was shown God’s will and way, he shared it with people through his writings. His writings are what gave people the knowledge God wanted them to have (Eph. 3:4). Even to this day, the writings that God’s anointed were told to record by Him, not just Paul, are still a media He has chosen to educate and inform people about His teachings.

“Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)” Eph. 3:4

An unsaved person can read and reread the words of God and still not comprehend the meaning or the mind of God until that person is born into the family of God through salvation. Once he is saved, he has a new mind (1 Cor. 2:16) that can know and comprehend God’s Word. After salvation, many of God’s truths will no longer be a “mystery” (Eph. 3:4) to him, and God’s message will be clear.

“For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.” 1 Co.r 2:16

Since I have been saved, I have seen again and again that truth proven true. I have learned the truth that the song “Amazing Grace” teaches: “I once was blind, but now I see”

Before I was saved, God's Word was "just an old book that men from a long time ago wrote." Now I see it as a book with every word of God preserved so I and others can read it and live by His words.

I have seen educated, religious "scholars" nervously attempt to explain passages of Scripture, and it was clear that they did not understand what they were reading. People with Ph. D.'s have attempted to explain the creation of Earth and man but have never come up with an explanation that all in the science community can concur. Their answers are just unproven theories.

Ridiculers of the things of God have attempted to prove the history and the advice from the Bible to be false, only to have their accusations disproved and unbelieved by most. They do not have the "mind of Christ" to understand the things of God. Its understanding is far above what man's natural intellect can understand.

However, I have seen the same scriptural principles and questions quickly and easily explained by saved seven-year-olds. The important factor in comprehending God's Word is that one must be a born-again member of the family of God. Once he is saved, he has the indwelling Holy Spirit. It is that Spirit that aides him in understanding the Word of God.

"Open thou mine eyes ..." *Psalms 19:18*

Guidance

Herbert Hoover

There is no other book so various as the Bible nor so full of concentrated wisdom. Whether it be of law, business, morals, or that vision which leads the imagination in the creation of constructive enterprises ... he who seeks for guidance ... may look inside its covers and find illumination.

"Many receive advice; only the wise profit by it." — *Syrus*

Seek God's Wisdom

Harry Todd

Congratulations to you graduates,
The victory has been won,
School work has been completed
But your education is not done.

You will never cease your learning,
Each day, knowledge you will gain,
But without God's wisdom
Your knowledge will be in vain.

Where then is wisdom found?
Job asked that years ago,

He answered, "The fear of the Lord"
And still today, it is so.

Diploma, education, knowledge,
All three you may gain
But without wisdom from God,
Your service for Him is in vain.

Getting Advice

King James Bible

- *"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful." Psalms 1:1*
- *"I will instruct thee and teach thee in the way which thou shalt go: I will guide thee with mine eye." Ps. 32:8*
- *"The LORD bringeth the counsel of the heathen to nought: he maketh the devices of the people of none effect." Ps. 33:10*
- *"The counsel of the LORD standeth for ever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations." Ps. 33:11*
- *"Where no counsel is, the people fall: but in the multitude of counsellors there is safety." Proverbs 11:14*
- *"Without counsel purposes are disappointed: but in the multitude of counsellors they are established." Pr. 15:22*
- *"Hear counsel, and receive instruction, that thou mayest be wise in thy latter end." Pr. 19:20*
- *"There are many devices in a man's heart; nevertheless, the counsel of the LORD, that shall stand." Pr. 19:21*