

Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old.

Matthew 13:52

Store In My Heart

2Thessalonians 3:13

As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

In this second letter, written shortly after the first, Paul encourages these brethren by speaking of his boasting about their faith and steadfastness through persecution. He reminds them that God will deal with those who persecute His own. He also deals with a problem they had regarding the "day of the Lord." Some were saying the Lord had already returned and this was disturbing many of the brethren and causing fear. There were others among them who were not working. Paul warns that the Lord's return is still in the future and all must work to supply things needed. He even commands that they separate from those who do not heed his teaching in these matters. Our verse above contains his exhortation to keep doing good.



Live A Balanced Life

Dan Henderson

An Arabic Proverb

All sunshine makes a desert. The eternal God, whom we serve, knew that long before men "...for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust" (**Matthew 5:45**). God sends both sunshine and rain, there must be a balance.

Is it possible that in spiritual matters some brethren do not understand this principle? Many seem to think they should be able to go to worship feeling good and leave worship feeling good. The "spiritual fur" must always be rubbed the right way.

Is it possible that some preachers feel it ought to be that way? When preachers always know how to approach every subject in a way that will never make anyone unhappy or when they never deal with subjects on which there are differing positions, one wonders.

How did the Holy Spirit view this matter? The young preacher, Timothy, was commanded, "*Preach the word; be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine. For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine...*" (**2Timothy 4:2-3**). The Holy Spirit wants a balance in preaching -- reproof, rebuking, and exhorting.

While we do not want any preacher to be a wet blanket, we are thankful that some preachers believe All sunshine makes a desert. -- Glenn Melton

Twenty years ago my father-in-law, Glenn Melton, placed this article on the front page of his new paper, StraitWay. A similar 'proverb' that might be more familiar "I never promised you a rose garden, along with the sunshine, there's got to be a little rain sometime."

As we move into the new year I would like for each of us to consider these thoughts, not just in our teaching, but in our everyday

Contact Us

We want opportunities to speak with others about the Lord's Kingdom.

Church of Christ
1512 Tanner Street
Malvern, AR 72104
(501) 332-8806

Find Us Online

preacher@tannerst.com

tannerst.com
FB @TannerStCoC

For Our Information

Joyce Venable is back in the hospital and is not doing well at all.

Jimmy Gray and Brenda Keisler are both doing physical therapy.

Jerry Henderson is still in CCU on the ventilator. He has shown improvement but it is slow going.

Tonight we start in 2Samuel 3:1 at 5 pm.

Wednesday at 7 pm in Philippians 2:1.

Join us for all these studies.

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

lives. If everything always happened just as we expected and wanted, we would never see challenge. We would never grow if we did not meet some resistance as we went about our life of service. Difficulty and change are part of what we need in life. Just as our bodies need some resistance, so do our minds.

When you read the Scriptures, do you focus on the familiar, easy passages, or do you seek sometimes to glean better understanding from those areas that seem more difficult? We have studied both Acts and Revelation in the recent past, and in a general sense, those two books are on either end of the difficulty spectrum. Acts is pretty straightforward and easy to understand, while Revelation is sometimes hard to read, not to mention understand. How do you approach these two studies? I know I usually spend much more time reading and preparing for Revelation because of its difficulty. Because of such focus, I feel, I have gained a better understanding of some of the symbols and how the teachings found there can benefit us today.

But let me turn this idea around for a moment. Should studying a less difficult book, like Acts, mean that we spend less time and effort in gaining an understanding of its precepts and teaching? While Acts may be straightforward and easy to grasp, it lays before us the foundations of our relationship to God and one another. These teachings are vital to our work for the Lord. Only with focus and diligence will we make these things a part of our life. We need to be diligent in all study. It is good to read the Bible daily, but we also need to dig deep in the well of God's Truth.

We also need to see balance in our everyday activities. Work is necessary, whether we are on the job or at home. There are always things that need to be done, maintenance, repair, cleaning are things that each one must deal with regularly. But we also need to find time to be refreshed. Just sitting on the porch for a few minutes watching the birds and squirrels in our yard can do wonders for our mind and body. Yet we cannot sit around doing nothing all the time or we will waste away. Eating and exercise are two sides of the same coin, so to speak, if we want to remain healthy.

Only eating, or only resting, or only reading Scripture is like getting only sunshine all day, every day. It might sound good, but without balance we cannot live and grow. We need rain and fog just as much as we need sunshine for this Earth to continue. We need exercise and work along with food and rest for our bodies to grow.

We need some Scripture reading and we also need some diligent Scripture digging if we want our minds and spirits to grow and be useful for the Lord.



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!