

*So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets.*

**Matthew 7:12**

## Store In My Heart

### 3John 11

Beloved, do not imitate evil but imitate good. Whoever does good is from God; whoever does evil has not seen God.

This third epistle from John the Apostle is also written to an individual. Like the second John commends this individual for the assistance given to those who were spreading the Gospel. Unfortunately there was one in the church there that was causing problems for those who were offering such assistance. John rebukes him, even giving warning that more might be needed. He also mentions one there that could be depended upon.

Our verse states a basic truth that we all should heed. We must keep ourselves from that which is not of God. Even when those around us are working against us we must continue to do that which is right. Always do good, not evil.



# Dealing With Others

**Doy Moyer**

People often assume that others will act, react, and operate on the same basis that they do. If some are liars, they will assume the same of everyone else. If they operate “in the shadows,” they will assume the same of others. If they are the envious type, they will assume that others will also become envious and act accordingly. They are suspicious of everyone because they themselves lack integrity.

I believe this is the mentality that underlies that of the teachers who meant to do Paul harm. Here’s what Paul said in **Philippians 1:15-17**, *“To be sure, some preach Christ out of envy and rivalry, but others out of good will. These preach out of love, knowing that I am appointed for the defense of the gospel; the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely, thinking that they will cause me trouble in my imprisonment.”*

Notice that these teachers preach out of envy and rivalry. They have selfish ambition and thought that their success in preaching would cause problems for Paul while he was imprisoned. How so? Likely by thinking that Paul would act the same way they do. Paul would become envious out of his own selfish ambition and thereby suffer at the success of others.

However, as is also common among those who have such bad motives, they misjudged Paul. Paul did not operate on the same basis they did. He was not envious and showed no

## Contact Us

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

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## For Our Information

David Laubach is back to (his) normal again.

JoBeth still has a cough but is feeling normal again also.

The Simpson family is out of town this weekend.

JoBeth's sister-in-law, Tami Melton is still having a rough time with her chemo treatments.

Tonight we start in 1Kings 2:19.

Wednesday we will begin our study in 1Thessalonians 5:12

Pray for safety, courage & healing.

such self ambition. Paul's attitude was displayed through his humility, which included rejoicing that truth was being preached. These particular teachers are not said to be teaching error. Their problem was their motives. *"What does it matter? Only that in every way, whether from false motives or true, Christ is proclaimed, and in this I rejoice"* (v. 18).

One of the reason we need to root out evil motives in ourselves is because we will invariably attribute the same evil motives to others. How we operate becomes, in our minds, how others also operate, and this does an injustice in our attitudes toward those we ought to be loving and serving. *"Love finds no joy in unrighteousness but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things."*

Assume the best in others and perhaps that will also speak to pure motives in ourselves. If we have pure motives, we can start by assuming that others do as well. This does not mean everyone will have pure motives, but if we cannot start by giving the "benefit of the doubt," then our own bitterness will get in the way of being able to develop healthy relationships and serve one another through love.

(I read this online recently and felt it was helpful in both gaining a better understanding of Paul's reaction in Philippians and our own interaction with others. Since we recently studied this passage I thought it would be useful for each of us to consider the thoughts presented by Brother Moyer in this article.

I have included his articles in our bulletin before and I am sure I will use his writings in the future. I also want to encourage you to take opportunity read more of his articles. If you use facebook he is pretty simple to find, just search for Doy Moyer. He also has a website where he post regularly, SearchingDaily.com. Most every day there is some preacher or teacher from whom I learn.

We all should make a point to read and listen to the teachings of sound brethren. There is sufficient material to engage us daily in our study of the Word. If nothing else some of these writings will challenge us to look more closely at what we believe. DLH)



We seek only to serve God according to His Will!