

For Our Information

Brenda Keisler still has some time to wait before she the procedure on her neck. She has been in a great deal of pain lately.

Thelma McCray, Donna Allen's mother, has been moved to hospice. Please keep the family in your prayers as they deal with this trying situation.

The Simpson family is out of town this weekend.

With weather changes we often see an increase in illness and other health issues. Keep in touch with one another with calls, cards and visits, and keep praying for one another.

Keep your brothers & sisters in mind

We seek only to serve God according to His Will!

Contact Us

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

Church of Christ

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Keep This In Mind

Our fast paced digital world seems to provide new material for us to consider on an almost daily basis. It seems we have a never ending source of new books and articles to consider when we look for study or devotional material. While much of this material can be useful for our edification we must always be careful to test it against God's Word. No material written by men can be trusted until we know it agrees with what God has left to guide us.

Another thought along that line. We need to be careful of accepting material just because it has been around for a long time also. While this week's article comes from a popular 'brotherhood' publication, it must still be weighed in light of God's revelation. To apply the advise of John, "Test the spirits (material) to see whether they are from God." 1John 4:1

Seeking His Righteousness

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The Deceitfulness Of Sin

Larry R. DeVore

In **Hebrews 3:13** we find these words: *"But exhort one another daily, while it is called today: lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin."* The word "deceitfulness" comes from the Greek word *apate* which is defined in Vine's Expository Dictionary of New Testament Words, as "to cheat, deceive, beguile, that which gives a false impression, whether by appearance, statement, or influence" (p. 279).

The statement that "you can fool some of the people all of the time and all of the people some of the time; but you can't fool all the people all of the time," is supposedly attributed to Abraham Lincoln.



But if you will not do so, behold, you have sinned against the Lord, and be sure your sin will find you out.

Numbers 32:23



Meet With Us

Worship Services

Sunday 10:20 am & 5:00 pm

Bible Classes

Sunday 9:30 AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

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We need to add to that, you can never fool God at anytime! But people are often quite clever at fooling others, even members of the body of Christ. We must realize, that even though we would be successful in continuing in sin and keeping it hidden from the church, we cannot conceal anything from God. *"Be sure your sin will find you out"* (**Numbers 32:23**). Even if we could hide our sins for fifty years or more, one day we will have to answer to God. The things we have kept secret will be revealed (Romans 2:16). The God of heaven will call every one of us to account (**Romans 14:12**).

There is an aspect of the deceitfulness of sin we need to think about, and that is, that we are our own worst enemies. We deceive ourselves in sin. The first time we engage in a sin, it may deeply trouble us; it may worry and scare us. But let a person repeat that sin and continue in it time and time again and he will become hardened to it. Notice in our text, *"Lest any of you be hardened."* In the same manner a man will become tired and sore the first time he uses a pick and shovel all day and perhaps get sore and blistered hands, but later on he becomes tough and hardened to that work, so it may be with the human heart.

The first time we go out drinking our conscience may trouble us, for we know it is wrong. The first time we do drugs and the first time we gamble, these will worry us. The first time a man or woman commits fornication or adultery will deeply trouble them; but let it continue, and they will fool themselves into thinking their "affair" is something "sweet and precious." It is not; it is sin! The homosexual and the Lesbian have fooled themselves into thinking that God has made them the way they are. He has not! They have turned away from God's laws. God has

Store In My Heart

2Timothy 1:5

I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well.

While noting the strong faith of Timothy, Paul tells us it had begun with the influence of his grandmother and mother.

The influence of a mother, or father, over their children should not be taken lightly. What your children see in you will help or hinder their growth as servants of God.

Certainly our faith must be our own, but it has to begin somewhere. Start your family with a firm foundation of faith and they will build upon it. Give them sinking sand and they will fail.

limited sex. He has limited it first of all, to the opposite sex (**Romans 1:26-28**). God does not approve of homosexuality and lesbianism. He has condemned it in no uncertain terms. Then God has further limited sex to within the framework of marriage. *"Nevertheless, to avoid fornication (immorality), let every man have his own wife, and let every woman have her own husband"* (**1Corinthians 7:2**).

If a person continues in sin, any sin, he will become hardened by the very nature of sin, by its deceitfulness. Sin is pleasurable (**Hebrews 11:25b**); continue in it and it will become normal and acceptable, and we will cease viewing it as sin, and think little or nothing at all of the evil of continuing to pursue sinful activities. We will deceive ourselves.

What is the remedy? The gospel of Christ, God's power to save those who obey (**Romans 1:16; Hebrews 5:8-9**). What is needed? Repentance! Old fashioned godly repentance! A repentance preceded by godly sorrow for sin (**2Corinthians 7:10**). Paul says this *"godly sorrow worketh repentance to salvation."* That is the only kind of repentance that is any good, that which will work to salvation.

The key to all this is, how much does a person want to go to heaven. If we really desire to do what is right (**1John 3:7**), then we will repent and extricate ourselves from whatever sin(s) are in our lives, and live according to the Word of God. *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord"* (**2Corinthians 6:17**). There is no sin too grievous, too corrupt, too immoral, that our God cannot forgive if we repent and ask him to forgive us (**1John 1:8-10**). (Guardian of Truth June 2, 1988)