



“Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you...” Matthew 28:20

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## *Do You Have That* RUN-OVER FEELING?

Chuck Northrop

At times, most people feel as though they have been run-over. Sometimes, the feeling results from others using and abusing them, and other times it results from just being worn out. Whatever the cause, the fact is such feelings are real. The apostle Paul exhorted the church at Galatia saying, “And let us not be weary in well doing” (Galatians 6:9). From time to time, it is hard not to want to throw up your hands and quit, but notice closer what the apostle wrote which will be a source of great encouragement.

**IF WE KEEP IN MIND THE RIGHT EXAMPLE, IT WILL HELP US NOT GROW WEARY.** Even in the face of false teachers, the Christians of Galatia were exhorted not to grow weary. Throughout the book of Galatians, Paul dealt with those who “troubled” the church and “would pervert the gospel of Christ” (1:7). As a result, there were some who were falling away and going back into the world. Thus, there was a tremendous need for those who were “spiritual” to “restore such a one” (6:1). In the face of difficult situations, it is easy to grow weary especially when the results are not easily seen. It often becomes a situation like that of Jeremiah, the weeping prophet, who saw no transformation in the lives of the people to whom he preached. The fact is, some people “who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift” (Hebrews 6:4) are not interested in returning to the fold of God. That fact is discouraging to even the most spiritual disciple. Let us, therefore, remember the example given unto us by the Lord “who for the joy that

was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God” (Hebrews 12:2).

### **IF WE SET OUR SIGHTS RIGHT, IT WILL HELP US NOT GROW WEARY.**

Often we get our sights a little mixed up. We begin looking for results in the wrong places. When we are working with an unfaithful member of the Lord’s body, our sights are set on that person and his or her return to faithfulness. When they do not return, we become discouraged. Why? Was it not their decision? A decision only they can make. Our sights should be set a little different. We should set our sights on “Jesus the author and finisher of our faith” (Hebrews 12:2) for as Paul said, “I have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase” (1 Corinthians 3:6). If we have our sights set right, we are looking unto God and not unto the actions of people.

**IF WE REMEMBER GOD WILL REWARD OUR FAITHFULNESS, IT WILL HELP US NOT GROW WEARY.** Galatians 6:9 says, “And let us not be weary in well doing: for in due season we shall reap, if we faint not.” No matter what others may do, “God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap” (Galatians 6:7). Sometimes it is hard to see the rewards of faithfulness, but faithfulness is always rewarded! If we do not see the rewards in this life, we will certainly see them in the life to come.

Paul’s conclusion is our conclusion. “As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith” (Galatians 6:10). □

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## *The Day I Had A Stroke!*

The other day it happened. There was a good deal of stress in my life. Things were beginning to pile up. I was far behind in my work. This day, which needed to go just right, started out poorly and got worse. Four phone calls tore up my morning schedule. Car trouble used up the lunch hour, leaving me in no mood to handle the afternoon. Two salesmen called, and I was primed for it to happen. I had no warning nor idea the stroke was on the way. The phone rang again, and it happened! The caller said, “I just wanted to tell you how much my family and I love you and appreciate what you do!” There it was, a stroke of love and encouragement. And, oh, how I needed it!

*“And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works” (Hebrews 10:24).*

*“Seeing you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit unto unfeigned love of the brethren, see that ye love one another with a pure heart fervently” (1 Peter 1:22).*

Let’s heed the Scriptures. Let’s give each other daily strokes! We all need them so badly. Send that card, write that note, make that call.

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# What Standard of Authority?

Wendell Winkler

By what authority do you practice the things you do in religion? Let us observe the following questions:

**Is the Majority the Correct Standard Authority?** Surely not. Through time the majority has been in the wrong. Where was the majority when the flood came? What about Sodom and Gomorrah? Jesus said many would go in the broad way that leadeth to destruction (Matthew 7:13, 14). The majority is not the correct standard of authority.

**Are Kinsmen the Correct Standard of Authority?** Surely not. If they were then every religion, even those that deny the divinity of Christ and reject the Bible as the infallible guide in matters of religion, would be alright if such was accepted by kinsmen. Kinsmen are not the standard of authority.

**Are the Creeds of Men the Correct Standard of Authority?** Surely not. They are contradictory to the inspired and infallible word of God. They contain the doctrines and commandments of men, concerning which Jesus said, “But in vain they do worship me, teaching for doctrine the commandments of men” (Matthew 15:9). The creeds of men are not the correct standard of authority.

**Is “I Think” the Correct Standard of Authority?** Surely not. In Jeremiah 10:23 we read, “O Lord, I know that the way of man is not in himself; it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.” Also, observe Proverbs 14:12; “There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death.” “I think” is not the correct standard of authority.

**Christ and His Testament Is the Correct Standard of Authority.** All authority in heaven and in earth has been given unto Christ (Matthew 28:18). His Testament is complete, final and all-sufficient (John 16:13, Jude 3). Religious practices are to be based upon such. Paul wrote, “If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God” (1 Peter 4:11). In view of such, can you give book, chapter, and verse from the New Testament for that which you practice in religion?

## Could Never Find the Time!

I knelt to pray but not for long, I had too much to do. I had to hurry and get to work for bills would soon be due. So I knelt and said a hurried prayer and jumped up off my knees. My duty was now done. My soul could rest at ease. All day long I had no time to spread a word of cheer. No time to speak of Christ to friends, they’d laugh at me I’d fear. No time, no time, too much to do. That was my constant cry. No time to give to souls in need but at last the time to die. I went before the Lord, I came, I stood with downcast eyes. For in His hands God held a book; it was the book of life. God looked into His book and said, “Your name I cannot find. I once was going to write it down...but never found the time!”

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# Observations and Concerns

April 12, 2023

**Welcome Visitors!** We appreciate the encouragement you provide us by your coming.

“Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at his holy hill; for the LORD our God *is* holy” (Psalm 99:9).

**Expression of Gratitude:** Let us remember this week to thank God for the medical professionals who help us with our various health struggles and ailments.

**Weleetka Gospel Meeting** is April 16–19, 2023 with Jamie Beller on “In God We Trust.”

**Remember in Prayer:**

- ▶ **Dicie Jackson** had surgery to have a spot removed from her thymus gland. She is home and recovering.
- ▶ **Bill Dilks** is scheduled to have cataract surgery on April 17.
- ▶ **Nelda Hudson** continues to have issues with her heart and is undergoing testing.
- ▶ **Sherry Carmona** has a consultation this week regarding a knee replacement.
- ▶ **Jim Allison** is still recovering from a head injury and stint procedure.
- ▶ **Sam Orr**, Kathy Orr’s dad, fell last week. He is bruised but doing ok.
- ▶ **Shirley Hunter** fell and broke her hip. She will spend 2-3 weeks in rehab to recover.

Remember, if you have news for the bulletin, please get your news to Chelley Nelson or Chuck Northrop no later than Tuesday.

Schedule of Services	Assignments		
		Wednesday, Apr.12	Sunday, Apr. 16 AM
		Sunday, Apr. 16 PM	
	Announcements	Chuck Northrop	Paul Praschnik
	Song Leader	Doyle Jackson	Doyle Jackson
	Prayer	Russ Earl	Bill Dilks
	Lord’s Supper (speaker)	Chuck Northrop	Russ Earl
	Lord’s Supper	Chris Nelson	
	Lesson	Chuck Northrop	Russ Earl
	Prayer / Door Attendant	Paul Praschnik	Ross Swearingen
		Chris Nelson	