

"DISCIPLINARY ACTION"

Monday, August 25, 2008

9:04 AM

2 THESSALONIANS 3:6~15

"DISORDERLY BRETHREN"

- The COMMAND that the apostle sent to them was "in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" which means: "By His authority"
- The instruction is to withdraw from "EVERY BROTHER" who walks disorderly - this means:
 - That the action should be applied uniformly and without partiality to the guilty party
 - And the action should be carried out uniformly and impartially by everyone who is faithful
- The measuring stick is: "the traditions which they had received from us" (the apostles) as well as the examples demonstrating how it is to be done (also displayed to them by the apostles)
- The basis of the traditions & examples which the apostles gave them were: they did not eat anyone's bread: "free of charge"
- The means of preventing this (eating of bread free of charge) was to work and not be busybodies
- A second category of people who would need to have action taken against them are those who "do not obey our word (the apostles') by the epistle they wrote.
 - The action against such a person is "not to have company with such a one that he may be ashamed"
 - The desired end of such action is as admonition to such a one "as a brother" and not as an enemy

LAZY BROTHER	HEADSTRONG BROTHER
-----------------	-----------------------

SOURCE OF AUTHORITY	Traditions of the apostle	Epistle from the apostle
	Example of the apostle	
ACTION REQUIRED	Withdrawal	Not have company
OBJECTIVE TO BE ACHIEVED	Work in quietness	Become ashamed
	Eat own bread	

ROMANS 16:17~18

"MARKING & AVOIDING SOME BRETHREN"

- To note (or mark) someone is to identify the person and to avoid such a person which means not to be on good terms with that person
- Those are identified as "causing division and offences (overstepping that which is prescribed)" [2 John 1:9~10]
- That which was prescribed was: "the doctrine which you learned"
- The reason for avoiding them is because they do not serve our Lord Jesus Christ
- They do things to deceive people so that they may benefit [Philippians 3:17~19]

TITUS 3:10~11

"DIVISIVE BRETHREN"

- "A divisive man" is someone who does not want to see unity in the body of Christ.
- With such it is always: "them against us" instead of striving for: "the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" Ephesians 4:3
- A divisive man is also a highly opinionated person and anyone or anything that does not agree with his point of view, he immediately separates himself from them thus causing division.[2 Peter 3:16]
- The instruction from the apostle Paul is that we should admonish (warn) such a person at least twice and thereafter only are we allowed to take action against him.
- Such a person is then to be rejected.

1 CORINTHIANS 5:1~13

"SEXUALLY IMMORAL BRETHREN"

1. WHAT SHOULD THE BRETHREN DO TO CORRECT FAULTY BEHAVIOR AND LIFESTYLE?

- Verse 2: "Mourned" (have a sorrowful and regretful heart)
- Verse 5: "Deliver the offending party to Satan for the destruction of the flesh"
- Verse 7: "Purge out the old leaven"
- Verse 9: "Do not keep company with sexually immoral people"
- Verse 11: "...not to keep company - not even to eat with such a person"

- Verse 13: "Therefore put away from yourselves the evil person"

2. WHAT WOULD BE THE PURPOSE OF SUCH STRONG ACTION AGAINST ERRING BRETHREN?

- Verse 2: "...that he who has done this deed might be taken away from among you"
- Verse 5: "...that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus"
- Verse 6: "...that a little leaven should not leaven the whole lump"
- Verse 7: "...that you may be a new lump..."

MATTHEW 18:15~18

"STEPS IN RECONCILIATION"

1. THE INSTANCE WHERE A BROTHER SINS AGAINST YOU

- The first step is to have a private audience with the offending brother
 - If the discussion is fruitful - then the matter ends there
 - If the discussion is not fruitful, then go over to the next step
- The next step is to take one of two more brethren along to the discussion
 - If the discussion is fruitful - then the matter ends there
 - If the discussion is not fruitful, then go over to the next step
- The third step is to report the matter to the church
 - If he listens to the church - then the matter ends there
 - If he does not listen to the church, sever the close ties you had with him - he will then be to you as a non believer and hardened sinner

2. THE INSTANCE WHERE YOU SIN AGAINST YOUR BROTHER: [MATTHEW 5:23~24]

- Do not continue in your worship to God until you have done all you can to set the matter right with your offended brother
- Only after this can you with a clear conscience come to God and offer your gift
- You will then be: "in favor with God and man" Luke 2:52

GALATIANS 6:1~2

"STEPS IN RESTORATION"

- This is the duty of the ones who are "spiritual" (this means someone who has mastered how to deny the desires of the flesh)
- Such a person would have the know-how to educate the erring brother how to overcome his faults
- But there are requirements to qualify for this job of restoration:
 - Do it in a spirit of gentleness
 - Be aware of your own vulnerabilities - lest you also be tempted.
- In this way are we to bear one another's burdens

2 CORINTHIANS 2:7~11

"ATTITUDE AFTER RESTORATION"

- Verse 7: "forgiveness and comfort"
- Verse 8: "reaffirm your love"
- Verse 9: "show obedience to the apostle's commands"
- Verse 11: "do this lest Satan gain an advantage over us"

JAMES 5:19~20

"THE OBJECTIVE OF DISCIPLINARY ACTION"

- Saving a soul from death
- Cover a multitude of sins

DANIEL 12:2

"THE REWARD FOR PERSISTING IN CORRECTIVE ACTION"

- Those who are wise shall shine - like the brightness of heaven
- Those who turn others to righteousness - like the stars forever and ever