

THE LEVITE

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Rescue the perishing...

Fanny Crosby



How to handle a scandal
Be a fire extinguisher



Complacency
But I really don't care



Praying and Preaching
Less piddling

 **HODGENVILLE
PENTECOSTAL
CHURCH**
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HOW TO HANDLE A SCANDAL

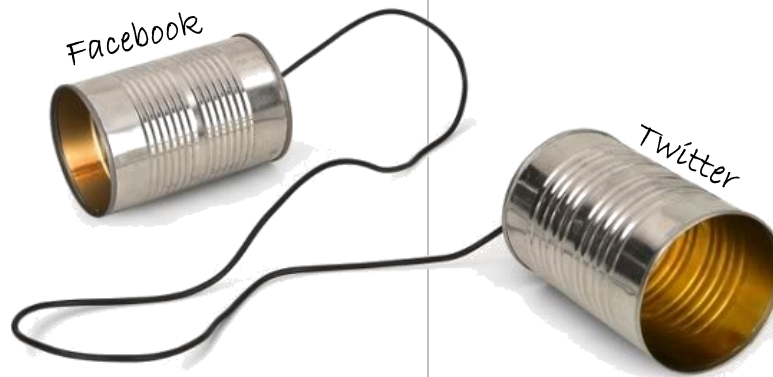
Brother David Webb
Senior Pastor - Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

1 Chronicles 10:7-13

This is a sad, sad story about a fallen man. Saul was raised up by Almighty God. He was revered and honored among his brethren. The hand of God rested upon him as he led the Israelites. This King was head and shoulders above all of Israel; therefore, they all looked up to him. However, there was a day when he did his own thing; it was a catastrophic day. The dark cloud of disobedience settled in the soul of Saul and the lights went out. The man of God had given him specific instructions to totally destroy the Amalekites. When the prophet Samuel came into camp after the battle was seemingly won, he heard the sound of the holdovers. The old prophet said, "What meaneth then this bleating of the sheep in mine ears." Have you ever heard something and your heart falls and a sick feeling overtakes you as you grieve that someone has been disobedient to God? The Bible said in 1

Samuel 15:26 - *"And Samuel said unto Saul, I will not return with thee: for thou hast rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD hath rejected thee from being king over Israel."* Isn't it amazing that even though Saul and Samuel were close, the man of God did not pull any punches or play any politics? He could not be bought off. He was God's man, not playing politics.

Now, most Bible scholars say that Saul reigned for 42 years. All of them say this failure was early on; however, God did not remove him for 40 years. Have you ever wondered after some skeleton comes out of the closet and it's been in there for years...*Questions like, "How in the world could they be living like that, us not know it, and them retain their position for that long?"* We feel violated and taken. How do you think God feels?



There came a day of judgment, a reckoning day of sorts as 1 Samuel 31:9 said of Saul, *"And they cut off his head, and stripped off his armour, and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the house of their idols, and among the people."*

There will be a day of judgment, but we must let God bring it about!

There are two ways to handle scandal as shown in our text.

There is the way of the heathen. They took his head and his armor *"and sent into the land of the Philistines round about, to publish it in the house of their idols, and among the people."* They wanted everybody to know the mighty had fallen. It gave the enemies of God opportunity to blaspheme. It gave all the skeptics around town opportunity to say, *"We knew those people of God were odd. Now look at their shame!"*

Consider this: take 2 Samuel 1:25 literally as it is written in its context, *"How are the mighty fallen!"* The statement is finished with an exclamation mark! As expressing grief, pain, sorrow, regret by making a statement. Why do so many tend to put a question mark there? How are the mighty fallen? What are the dirty details? Who can I call that hasn't heard? What do I need to know about this situation? Hello, there are some things you don't need to know. If it's not your business, don't make it your business.

Brother Stacy Holden shared a story with me about Bro. Ben Shaw at Fairland Church. Years ago, there had been a little talking concerning a situation in the church. Bro.

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DON'T BE A SLAVE TO "IF"

Brother Andrew Astor
Youth Pastor - Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

How much of our time do we spend dwelling on things that never come to pass? If you are like me, then it's way too much. We live in a world of "hypotheticals", things that could happen but most of the time don't. The abundance of information we have at our disposal only helps to further this.

We have two children, and I know we are guilty of self-diagnosis. One of them will have a cough, and we instantly tell Doctor Google the symptoms, and he gives us the sickness. Be honest, you do that, too. This is on a small scale, but if we are not careful we can become a slave to the "what if".

We find a lump, and immediately we think the worst — cancer. Diabetes runs in your family so you live your life just knowing that you, too, will end up with it as well. We hear that our company is slowing down and fear grips us with the possibility of a lay off. We wake up in the morning and hear the news that war is near.

We must defeat the enemy called "IF". As Christians, I don't believe it's God's will or desire for us to be bound by fear. We all know what Philippians 4:8 says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." So why is it so hard to practice? Instead of dwelling on the possibilities let's think on the promises that we know.

I read a story a while back and it has stuck with me.

There was a village that was under siege in medieval times. The attackers were all outside the walls of this village, and every day they would shoot arrows over the wall with messages attached. They would say things like, "If we get inside your walls, we will destroy your village," and "If we get inside, we will kill your families," or "If we get inside, we will make you our slaves." This went on for many days. Finally, the villagers sent an arrow back over the wall with a message attached. It was one word "IF".

Here is an "IF" that you can stand upon when your world seems to be coming apart —

Romans 8:31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"



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How to handle a scandal - continued from page 2

Shaw stood up in a service and said, "I know some of you have been talking. Shut up! You think you know, but you don't!" That was the end of it. *That is how to handle a scandal!*

Fellow Christians, we should not have a Holiness Hot Line to share all the juicy gossip. You will ruin yourself if you partake in such nonsense. Some folks regularly have a telephone revelation. They get their information from "Tell All Twitter"! Then we have the FBI — "Facebook Investigators" — meandering through fields of followers and friends just so they know what to preach on.

I am following Jesus who has never failed. I am committed to sharing His good news. I'm not feeding my soul on a Bitter Backsliders Post that is publishing their sin for the whole world to see. *What spiritual uplift is it that? It's the way of the heathen.* We are not bottom feeders! We do not ingest the junk of this world! We are the Children of the King! We feed on the daily bread of God's Word!

God's people handle the scandal differently than the heathen. Let us look at these men of Jabesh-Gilead.

1 Samuel 31:11-13, "11And when the inhabitants of Jabesh-Gilead heard of that which the Philistines had done to Saul; 12All the valiant men arose, and went all night, and took the body of Saul and the bodies of his sons from the wall of Beth-shan, and came to Jabesh, and burnt them there. 13And they took their bones, and buried them under a tree at Jabesh, and fasted seven days."

They handled it properly! One of the things that sets one apart as a man or woman of God is how one handles scandal. God's people do not sweep sin under the rug. However, neither do we air out everybody's dirty laundry. We don't ignore sin, neither explore sin. We don't pet sin, neither do we publicize it. We don't brush off failure, but we don't broadcast it to the world. There is something horribly wrong with people who gloat in and broadcast others' failures. When I was a child I overheard a minister say concerning a fallen fellow camp meeting minister, "Well, I guess we will all have a chance to preach some big meetings now." What an attitude! He should have been weeping over the loss of a



brother and the loss of confidence of the people we all as ministers feel. Proverbs 11:13, "A talebearer revealeth secrets: but he that is of a faithful spirit concealeth the matter."

Brethren, there is the wrong way and the right way to handle a scandal. Publicize or privatize. We can stir the pot under the cover of prayer request. Remember, when you stir up something that's dead it stinks! We can throw gasoline on the fire or be a fire extinguisher. Deal with it and then bury. **There is a right way to handle a scandal!**

What a Friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

WORDS: Joseph M. Scriven, 1855. MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868.
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**Editor's Notes**

Front cover: "Rescue the Perishing" is a hymn penned by Frances (Fanny) Jane Crosby (1820-1915) in 1869. Fanny Crosby was one of the most prolific hymnists in history, writing more than 8,000 songs despite being blind from shortly after birth.



OUR MISSION IS THE GREAT COMMISSION

Brother David Whelan
Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

"All evangelism is personal evangelism."

Matthew 28: 16, 18-20

*"Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them. And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. **Go ye therefore**, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. "*

As the expression goes, I am writing this with three fingers pointing at myself. Admittedly, most of the audience of this publication are ministers (preachers and pastors) so nothing I say here is news to you except that it is coming from a layperson. It is my goal to cause us to pray about and consider our work and our priorities in the church and to renew our zeal for seeing the lost saved. Admit it, you/we are not really seeing the number of lost find salvation that we should.

Now, I give credit and honor to all those Brothers and Sisters that are pulling their weight. I know a few myself. Many go beyond their call of duty. However, the most of us are simply not fulfilling the primary instruction that the Lord left with us before His parting. We refer to this as the "Great Commission," whereby Jesus left us here as workers and soldiers to build His Kingdom. I personally fear being the third servant in the parable of the talents who only hid his master's goods, making no gain. The truth is that virtually all of us are given five talents but behaving like the servant with one. We are abundantly blessed and provided for but provide little by way of return for our Master. We sharpen and hone ourselves and make every effort to live holy and ask the Lord to sanctify and fill us with His Holy Ghost but perform poorly or not at all on task #1

and back the preacher when he preaches about the military kingdom of God, but we do not fulfill our duty. I fear that here fiddling with things that are important. Is there do in the kingdom important than adding of life? Haven't many of us

our work at church, our offering/tithe missions offering we pledge each year? No doubt all of those are useful to the kingdom and, therefore, commendable, but in no way are they a replacement for obedience to our Master's commission. It is as if we are only fulfilling our main responsibility by being a stagehand at a production, when the director meant for us to take the lead. We are never interfacing with the audience in any meaningful way.



that He left for us. We amen and clap but we provide no remission. We train all refuse to go to the He will find me work or with urgent, but not any work that we that is more important than adding souls to the Lamb's book hidden way too long behind

that supports the ministry, and the mis-

You can correct me if I am wrong, but I think when Jesus looked at those 11 men and said, "Go ye therefore and teach

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Great Commission - continued from page 5

all nations...." He was giving them each personal instruction and direction. He meant for them to witness personally. Forgive the crude comparison, but they were all hired at that point to be outside salesmen in the Kingdom of God, recruiters for the Army of the Lord. I don't see how any of us are left out of that. We are all to be on the front lines of that effort. Truly, it must be one missing link in our quest to become the powerful Church and spotless bride that Jesus would have.

Many will say we care about quality not numbers. I heard a pastor make an excellent comment in that regard recently, "Those numbers are souls." Many will say they don't know what to do; nor do I, but I am praying for guidance from the Lord and anyone else that can show me. All I know is that I want the Lord to fill me so full of Himself that I cannot contain my enthusiasm. It will be the first and last thing on my lips. I will not be offensive because He will be guiding it. I will say and do just the right thing, because He will be in it. If it is just seed planting, that is fine. If it is watering, that is fine, too. If it is harvesting — praise the Lord!




If anyone is waiting on the pastor or ministry to give them permission, you do not need it. You have direction from Jesus himself. Now, don't hit the ditch on me...if you are going out in the name of your church in the church van or using church finances, you are under the authority of your pastor in that regard. Everyone in this audience understands pastoral authority. However, so far as witnessing to people and letting your light shine, you go right ahead. For that matter, the pastor has been trying to get you to do it for years. If you bring 30 people to church next service, I bet no one rebukes you for it.

I was fellowshiping with a pastor recently, and he told me how there had been an individual with one of "those" grievances in the church; you know the one — music too loud, thermostat too low, Sister Jones needs to be sat down because she shouts too much — one of those. The pastor responded by asking the man how many people he had won for the Lord this year, how many he had brought to church. He simply let the man know what was really important. I have to tell you, I was clenching my teeth

because I don't want anyone to ask me that. It would be embarrassing to answer AND the truth is, that it would be embarrassing for most of us.

The question begs, "How did it get this way?" Well, I can only guess, but I could point to a couple of things:

1. Our church has been seeking revival and the pastor preached a message recently that included a reference to being spiritually fat. We are so well fed, we are so comfortable, we are so insulated that we have little enthusiasm and little empathy for the condition of the lost. We are cloistered into our Christian culture, and while the idea of lost people being saved is very attractive, the practicality of it overwhelms our desire.
2. We transfer our responsibility to others via the ministry. I/we figure that is why we are sponsoring missionaries and feel it satisfies our responsibility. If I am contributing, then I am participating...true enough, but isn't that like it was in the Civil War when a man would hire a replacement to report to the draft? It is not the same as going yourself. You have a unique testimony and set of qualifications that specifically meet the needs that your lost neighbor has with regard to the salvation of his soul.
3. We are not really sold out — I am not really sold out. A missionary and evangelist put that in perspective for me last week. I had used Romans 10:9 in a Sunday School lesson about salvation. He pointed out the context of that scripture which was A.D. 75 Rome where making a public profession like that scripture could get you a one way trip to an upside down cross. Brother, THAT is sold out! I am not there...yet. Our first century ancestors had nothing to lose and everything to gain. Many went joyfully to their executions. It is said of Peter that he chose the upside down crucifixion because he felt unworthy to be executed the same way as the Lord. If we were really sold out, they couldn't shut us up. Furthermore, the Lord uses that to draw others to him.

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PERSISTENCE IN PRAYER

Brother Jordan Johnson
Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

Philippians 4:6 - "Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God."

It is very important to be persistent in your prayer life. We are living in a day and hour where we need to know that we are in the center of God's will. We need to be sure that the words that we are saying are the words of God. The only way that we can know is listening to the voice of God, which comes through prayer. We must be a church that is persistent in prayer.

Prayer is the lifeline of the saint and the heartbeat of the church. We, as the body of Christ, must have a fervent and consistent prayer life. A church that has a powerful move of God is a church that prays for a powerful move of God. A church with testimonies of healings, deliverance, and salvation is a church that prays for these things. We must be encouraged in this hour in which we live.

The church is the place of hope for the Sinner. When they come in they ought to find the pews full of prayer warriors fighting for their souls. The sinner must know we love them enough to pray for them.

We serve a God that hears our prayers. He desires for us to commune. He is a God that listens to our problems, but also wants us to take time to listen for his perfect answer. All this is done through prayer. Let us not fall short, but keep on praying for the church today.

A Church that has lost its prayer life is nothing more than a social group or a club. Let us never forget that prayer is precious and always has a purpose; it is our time to talk with our Creator. Prayer is never petty, pointless, or powerless!

"Our prayers may be awkward. Our attempts may be feeble. But since the power of prayer is in the One who hears it and not in the one who says it, our prayers do make a difference." — Max Lucado



COMPLACENCY: THE ENEMY OF CHRISTIAN LIBERTY

1. Self-satisfaction especially when accompanied by unawareness of actual dangers or deficiencies *When it comes to safety, complacency can be dangerous.*
2. an instance of usually unaware or uninformed self-satisfaction

"I may be complacent, but I don't really care!"
Sounds familiar in today's society, and even in today's church world, doesn't it? When you don't care what'll happen, something usually does.

You see, complacency is really satisfaction with the "status quo", and is actually a poverty of the mind. For instance, home educators may say, "Well, home schooling is so easy in my state that I don't have to worry about attacks from officials. They're on my

Brother Don Woolett
Hodgenville Pentecostal Church



side." Then, all of a sudden, the school board is knocking on the door threatening them and demanding information they're not entitled to demand under the law, and the home educator parent either doesn't know what to do or they comply with the school board's unwarranted request.

Complacency is the enemy of the soul. Spiritual satisfaction can lead us to a place of spiritual poverty. We cannot have true liberty in our walk with Christ by being complacent.

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4. I love the quote my pastor used recently, “If we are not careful, we will spend our time on things that are urgent, but not important.” I will let you think about what you are doing and digest that, but I think, as Christians, we can agree that the most important work we have is soul winning.

So how do we fulfill this mission? Like anything else, if we are going to be successful in the important task we have been given, it is going to take hard work. In sales they refer to lazy salesmen as “order takers,” pointing to the fact that all they do is answer the phone. Alternatively, there are those who go out, call on folks, and sell their product or service. The first guy can only be successful in a growth market; the second guy can be successful in almost any market because he is doing the work. Interestingly, our commission is not much different — little of it occurs at church; most of it requires hard work out on the street where the people we have been told to seek out live. Folks, we have some beautiful church buildings and powerful services, but they can’t see it and feel it over on Sinner Street. We are going to have to go find them. They will be there, by the way, at the well, at work, at the pizza place. We are going to have to discipline ourselves to be sensitive, to be purposeful, and to take the time for people. If you want to see how that is done, review Jesus’s interaction with the woman at the well.

I feel like I/we neglect our most powerful witnessing tool — the testimony of our daily life and how God is helping us. Isn’t it true that folks in the world weave things they are interested in into every conversation? How many of us have been asked by a sinner if we have seen the latest episode of “America’s Got Talent” or if we saw the game last night? We do it, too, “Did you see the buck I got? Have you seen my new shoes?” I daresay that says volumes about what is foremost on our minds and in our hearts. What if our conversation went?: Sam Sinner: “How was your Thanksgiving? We sacrificed our son on the altar of football, and he blew out his knee.” John Saint: “My Thanksgiving was terrific! The Lord blessed me so much by allowing all my family to be together, and the abundance from Him we enjoyed was beyond belief, Sam. I am sorry to hear about your son, can I pray with you for him?” I know, that is contrived and not real, but it will be real when you do your version of it. This is not a call for a bus ministry or a door knocking night (although those are nice), but a call for a return to personal evangelism. *All evangelism is personal evangelism.*

Brothers and Sisters, as with the unfaithful servant, we are going to give an account of our work to our Master some-day soon. I may be coming up short, how about you?



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cent. Our own spiritual complacency keeps us from striving toward the higher places in God's Kingdom.

Abraham Lincoln once said, "Failure is not a crime, but low aim is." Another person said, "Contentment with earthly goods is the mark of a saint; contentment with our spiritual state is a mark of inward blindness."

We read in Philippians 3:13-14 KJV [13] "Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, [14] I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus." (*underlined emphases mine*)

The greatest men of God have always had something inside of them that was hungry for more of a work of the Spirit. Great men and women everywhere must have a greater hunger for more and greater knowledge in order to adequately provide for their families and be successful in the everyday affairs of life as well.

Proverbs 8, verse 10 says, "Receive my instruction and not silver; and knowledge rather than choice gold."

One of the greatest dangers to a Christian believer is to become content with lower standards than what God wants for us to live. Complacency and indifference are real dangers.

Evangelical Tom Shephard had this story to share. I believe it sums up very well our complacent attitude:

"There was a Canada goose flying across the farmland of Kansas on a fall day. For whatever reason it had gotten separated from the rest of its flock. But as the goose flew it spied the pond of Farmer Jones. Farmer Jones had Toulouse geese in his pond. If you know anything about Toulouse geese – they are a heavy breed – so heavy that they don't really fly. The Canada goose – even though it was a different shape and color than the other geese on the pond soon found that it was soon accepted and became part of the flock. He stayed for a day, then a week, then a month, and then it turned into the entire winter. Farmer Jones was married to a kind and gentle wife. Every day she would take a bucket of cracked corn out to the pond and would feed the geese. The Canada goose enjoyed the lifestyle.




Finally spring was approaching and the wild geese were flying north again. The goose looked up – he could hear the honks of geese flying by and he was stirred with a strange thrill to join his old comrades in flight. But try as he might he could not get off the ground. He had become so soft and heavy that he could not rise to be with his old friends and family. So he went back to the pond again and said to himself, "Oh, well, my life is safe here and the food is good." But from then on - every fall and every spring when he heard the wild geese honking overhead, his eyes would gleam for a moment and he would flap his wings. He did this

for many years - but each year it got less and less, until one day he paid no attention to them at all.

The moral of the story is that over time one can become satisfied with the way things are and complacent with the way things ought to be. The soul can forget its high standards and ideals and be content with living with lower things."

God doesn't want us to "straddle the fence". He does not want us to be complacent or indifferent or simply satisfied with where we are in our spiritual walk with Him. He wants us to seek after the things He has a passion for. He wants us to strive for masteries. But, He wants us to do it in humbleness and sincerity. So, I ask you. Are you just trying to get by in life? Are you just being comfortable? Not only does God tell us to grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus Christ, He expects us to have the knowledge and wisdom to deal with the natural things of life as well. To do that, we must replace complacency with a desire to seek greater accomplishments in our spiritual walk with God as well as greater common sense when dealing with the things of life.

We have a Savior who despised the "middle ground". In fact, He said He'd spew the "Lukewarm" individual out of His mouth at the Judgment. Jesus was not indifferent about our salvation. He loved us so much, he went to the cross with passion.

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MORE PRAYING AND PREACHING, AND LESS GLORIFIED PIDDLING

Reverend Bill Watson
Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

We are in need of more Spirit-led preaching rather than FLESH promoted speaking. If the sin of prayerlessness was not among our preachers, there wouldn't be so many of them falling. Every God called preacher is appointed by God "not to impress people, but to inspire people."

E.M. bounds said, "The preacher is not a professional man. His ministry is a divine devotion. A preacher is not of the 'elite' status, but of the 'elected'. God give our generation more PhD preachers: Preachers humbled Down."

It is time for more praying and preaching and less GLORIFIED PIDDLING! When we depend upon prayer, we get what God can do. When we depend upon man, we get what man can do. When we depend upon organization, we get what organization can do.

Satan has too many preachers caught up in glorified piddling. Satan knows that fervent prayer still works. When we preachers feel all burned out and limp, fervent prayer is like splicing our limp wire into the lightning bolt of Heaven.

For you who don't know what piddling is, according to Webster it is "to dawdle[putter], to spend time fruitlessly." Just puttering around means to move or act aimlessly. Too many good men (preachers) are being ensnared by all the TEXTING, MYSPACE, FACEBOOK, etc. and in the process, they are finding HERFACE. So, go ahead and smile, but we know it is true.

When Raphael was doing his paintings on the walls of the Vatican in Rome, some of the cardinals walked by and one said "The face of the apostle Paul is too red." Raphael's reply was "He blushes to see into whose hands the church has fallen." Preachers, can't we see into whose hands the church today is falling?

All of you church people who read this, the same also applies to you. NO Christian is exempt from Satan's snares. Preachers and lay people alike. "There can't be a standing without a kneeling."

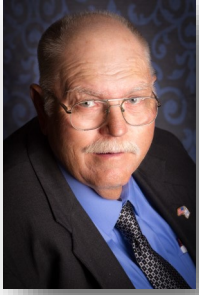


Complacency - continued from page 9

In conclusion, complacency will cause us to lose focus, rely on ourselves, and damage our faith. Can we afford it?

Stay focused on the things of The Lord and obey His instruction. Then we can say as the Scriptures tell us in Joshua 1:8, "This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good **success**."





THE DEATH OF COMMON SENSE

Author Unknown—Contributed by:

Brother Claude Powell
Hodgenville Pentecostal Church

Today we are mourning the death of an old friend by the name of Common Sense. Common Sense had lived a long time. We think he may have died of heartbreak or heart failure at the brink of the new millennium. No one really knows how old he was since his birth records were long ago lost in bureaucratic red tape. He selflessly devoted his life in schools, homes, factories, and offices helping folks get their jobs done without fanfare or foolishness.

For decades, petty rules, silliness, nor frivolous lawsuits held any power over Common Sense. He was credited with cultivating valued lessons such as to know when to come out of the rain, the early bird gets the worm, and life isn't always fair. He lived by simple but sound financial advice ☞ don't spend more than you make. Some of his reliable parting wisdom was the adults are in charge not the children and it's OK to pray in school.

Common Sense was a veteran of the Industrial Revolution, the Great Depression, and the Technological Revolution. He survived cultural and educational trends feminism, body piercing, whole language, and the new math, but he started to decline when he became infected with the "if it feels good, do it" virus. In recent decades, his strength waned and proved to be no match for overbearing federal regulation. He watched in pain as good people became ruled by self-seeking lawyers and enlightened auditors. His health rapidly deteriorated when schools implemented zero-tolerance policies like a 6-year old boy charged with sexual harassment for kissing a classmate, or someone taking a swig of mouthwash, or a teacher fired controlling an unruly student. His health deteriorated even further when schools were required to get a parent's permission to give a child an aspirin but cannot inform the parent when a female student is pregnant and is seeking an abortion.

Finally, it would seem that Common Sense lost his will to live when the Ten Commandments were taken out of schools, when "in God we trust" was taken off of money, when churches became businesses, when criminals were treated better than the victims, and federal judges started sticking their noses into everything from Boy Scouts to professional sports. As the end drew near, he drifted in and out of logic, but was kept informed on air bags and no smoking places. Finally, he breathed his last.

Common Sense was preceded in death by his parents, Truth and Trust; his wife of many years, Discretion; his daughter, Responsibility; and his son, Reason. He is survived by three stepbrothers ☞ Rights, Tolerance, and Whiner.

Not many attended the funeral of Common Sense because so few realized he was gone. They say a distant uncle to Common Sense is Wisdom, but he has not been seen among men in many years. They say he is in seclusion somewhere, and that his health is not good. Some say that the only way to revive Wisdom is for a nation, church, or person to repent and turn back to God and His holy Word.

Amusing? Not really. It is a sad commentary on our day in which liberals have thrown common sense to the wind in almost every area of human endeavor.



A YEAR END LOOK AT QUOTES FROM HPC...

(Compiled by Sister Genell Webb)

Bitterness is not going to change by chance; it's going to change by choice. Recognize it – remove it – replace it.
Brother Zane Estis

Sorrow, tears, broken hearts – are all temporary, but joy is permanent.
Brother Lloyd Shuecraft

The lazy chair has devoured our strength.
Brother David Webb

The Holy Ghost will not dwell in a vessel that is polluted with trash.
Brother Elijah Taylor

I'd rather be Biblically correct than be politically correct.
Brother Andrew Astor

I believe we can have enough momentum that the results will outlast us.
Brother David Webb

Faith is learned by insight, not by sight.
Brother Dylan Hedgespeth

The devil comes to the mind to get to the heart. Jesus comes to the heart to change the mind.
Brother Don Woolett

Our power doesn't come from our standard – our power comes from an experience with God.
Brother Trey Holden

You can keep in the wilderness what you got in the river.
Brother Enoch Snow

I would rather believe on the side of faith than live in doubt and fear. Build on God's record. Don't let doubt drive you – let faith fuel you.
Brother David Webb

We shouldn't be an event oriented church – we must be a relationship driven church.
Brother David Webb

Maybe it's your lost loved one stirring up dust on their way back home.
Brother Gary Taylor

God as the creator doesn't just fix things. He makes all things new.
Brother David Webb

Everything Jesus does is by divine design.
Brother Doug Webb

There is no age limit to possessing the promises of God.
Brother Israel Sanders

If you bring drama to the table, don't be surprised if everyone leaves.
Brother David Webb

I'm under construction – not destruction.
Sister Diane Booker

God always pays a dividend.
Brother Andrew Astor

There are voices that will talk you out of everything God wants to do for you. Ignore voices that are contrary to faith – listen to the voice of God and move when He says, "Move".
Brother Frank Rogers

We need to live like we're leaving.
Brother Matthias Dement

The home of a child of God should be a refuge.
Brother David Webb

Unpreparedness should not be our standard.
Brother Davy Boggs

Our witness isn't to bring people to church. Our witness is to bring people to Christ.
Brother James Suits

The altar is still open for business.
Brother Jordan Johnson

Satan has traded the social gospel for the saving gospel.
Brother Zane Estis

We don't desire God to get more – we desire God because there is more.
Brother David Webb

There is no shortcut in following Christ.
Brother Bill Watson

Let's push back the frontier of ignorance.
Brother Claude Powell

What's Gods Spot on your schedule?
Brother David Webb

Distraction disrupts God's divine direction in the service.
Brother Andrew Astor

Thank the Lord for the ways He's made for us. When we would look at it in the natural it didn't seem possible, but He always came through.
Brother Lawrence Ireland

Deliverance will come in the worship.
Brother John Gabbard

If you want to hear the voice of God, you must block out all the other voices.
Brother David Webb

When I offer the dismissal it seems everyone gets their hearing back that had lost it when I had called for all to come to the altar!
Brother David Webb

One of the toughest deceptions to overcome is one that someone wants to believe.

Brother David Whelan