

THE MOST NEGLECTED COMMAND IN THE BIBLE  
II THESS. 3:6-13

Introduction:

- A. We must view the church as an executive body and not legislative.
  - 1. It is our duty to do what He commands.
  
- B. We are Christ's body but He is the head.
  - 1. I have never met a man or a group of men who had sense to run a church.
  
- C. We have rejoiced in every truth thus revealed in I and II Thessalonians.
  - 1. I Thess. 4:13-18.
  - 2. II Thess. 3:13, 16-17 ; 4:5.
  
- D. Are we obligated to consider this truth?
  - 1. Can we pick and chose?
  
- E. Should any form of discipline be used?

I. "NOW, WE COMMAND YOU, BRETHREN." V6

- A. command = to hand an announcement from one to another, to pass it on, to give the word.
  
- B. "you, brethren."
  - 1. This is the work of the church.
  - 2. The church should do it.
  - 3. If the Pastor initiates action, it is generally misunderstood as a personal vendetta.

II. "IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST."

- A. This is no insignificant matter.
  - 1. Calls for full title of our Saviour.

- B. Should never be done in the name of any other person, or as purely emotional.
  - 1. Let's do this in revenge.

III. "THAT YE WITHDRAW YOURSELVES FROM EVERY BROTHER THAT WALKETH DISORDERLY."

- A. withdraw = to draw or shrink back from, to furl a sail.
  - 1. In I Thess. they are warned. I Thess. 5:14.
  - 2. "Warn them that are unruly."
- B. "every brother."
  - 1. No favoritism shown.
- C. "walketh disorderly."
  - 1. disorderly = out of rank, not in rank as a soldier, to be out of ones place, without discipline.
  - 2. walketh = a persistent practice.
  - 3. persistently and habitually out of one's place.

IV. "AND NOT AFTER THE TRADITION HE RECEIVED OF US."

- A. What is a disorderly walk?
  - 1. tradition = the act of delivering from one to another.
  - 2. he received = not ignorant of what Paul said.
- B. Should this be done today by us?
  - 1. What is a disorderly walk today?

V. PAUL SET THE EXAMPLE OF EACH MAN, GOING BEYOND THE COMMANDMENT. V7,8

- A. "Ye ought to follow us."
  - 1. Look to their life among them.
- B. "We behaved not ourselves disorderly among you."
  - 1. Paul lived in harmony with his profession.

- C. "neither did we eat any man's bread for nought."
  - 1. nought = groundlessly, without cause.
  
- D. "but wrought with labor and travail night and day."
  - 1. Paul was a working man.
  - 2. He was a tentmaker.
  
- E. "That we might not be chargeable to any of you."
  - 1. chargeable = to weigh upon, press heavily upon.

VI. PAUL DID NOT DO THIS WORK BECAUSE GOD ORDAINED SUCH AN EXAMPLE TO ALL CHURCHES.

- A. He had the authority to demand support.
  - 1. power = moral right.
  - 2. our power = I Cor. 9:3-14 ; I Tim. 5:18.
  
- B. They were so weak they had to have special treatment.
  - 1. Paul was afraid of being misunderstood.

VII. THE PRINCIPLE STATED. V10

- A. There were those who felt what they were doing should be paid for by the church.
  - 1. Some believe they claimed divine calling.
  - 2. Only people to have divine sanction is the preacher.
  
- B. The command.
  - 1. Do your work, or you don't get fed.

VIII. THE DISORDERLY WALK IDENTIFIED. V11

- A. disorderly = out of step, out of marching order, (rank) undisciplined.
  
- B. "working not at all."
  - 1. "Not engaged in daily toil."

C. I Tim. 5:13.

1. "but are busybodies." = a bustling disposition, busy in useless and superfluous things; meddling, curious, (hoeing in the ditch), (vacuum the yard).

IX. THE REMEDY. V12

A. "them that are such."

1. Classify yourselves.

B. "command and exhort."

1. A command and brotherly exhortation.

C. "with quietness."

1. Tranquility of mind and heart.
2. "work" = steady engagement.
3. If they do this, they will be able to "eat their own bread."