

THE CHURCH'S RESPONSIBILITY TO THE UNFAITHFUL
Cave City, Kentucky Monday night May 15, 1967

SCRIPTURES: Proverbs 11:30; James 5:19,20; Daniel 12:2, 3

THOUGHT: When the power of reclaiming the lost dies out of the church, it ceases to be the church.

THE PRECARIOUS POSITION OF THE UNFAITHFUL

1. Looking back: Luke 9:62; 17:32
2. Going back to the world: 1 Tim. 4:10
3. Better not to have known the way of truth: 2 Peter 2:20, 21

THE DUTY OF THE FAITHFUL TOWARD THE UNFAITHFUL

1. To warn night and day: Acts 20:31
2. To warn the unruly: 1 Thess 5:14
3. To restore them: Gal. 6:1

THE IDENTITY OF THE UNFAITHFUL. A brother may go astray:

1. As regards doctrine: 2 Tim. 4:1-4
2. As regards practice: Luke 6:46
 1. He may nor formerly renounce doctrine.
 2. Yet he is all the while entangled with the world: Rom. 12:1,2
 3. He is not working in keeping with his ability: Matt. 25:24-28

THE NEED FOR THE WORK

1. More dead in our cemeteries than living.
2. More spiritually dead than spiritually living: 1 Tim. 5:6
3. Many in the church spiritually dead: Rev. 3:1

THE AIM AND PURPOSE OF THE WORK

1. It is not to crush, disgrace, or to wreak vengeance on a person.
2. The aim is to restore him to his former standing with the Lord.
3. To prevent the loss of a soul or souls: an immense, irreparable loss. "What is a man profited if he gain the whole world and lose his own souls?" What shall any man give in exchange for his soul? Matt. 16:26

THOSE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WORK

1. The elders: Acts 20:28-30
 1. Elders apt to teach: 1 Tim. 3:2
2. The preachers:
 1. The preacher's work summed up: 1 Tim. 4:16; 3:14, 15; Titus 2:7, 8
3. All members:
 1. Kind to one another: John 13:35; Rom. 13:8

THE METHOD FOR DOING THE WORK

1. Restoring your brother: Matthew 18:15-17; Luke 15:1-7

THE RESULT OF THE WORK

1. A brother is regained: Matthew 18:15
2. Souls are saved...yours and theirs: James 5:19, 20

WARNINGS AND CONSEQUENCES OF NEGLECT

1. "And as thy servant w s busy here and there, he was gone." 1 Kings 20:40
2. Consequences of our failure to blow the trumpet: Ezekiel 33:6

-Jess Hall

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