



The Tri-Cities Edifier

Volume 9

March 20, 2022

No. 11

No Little Jobs, Only Little People

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“He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much” (Luke 16:10).

EVERY HONORABLE JOB IN THIS WORLD DESERVES TO BE DONE WELL. When we’re asked to do a thing, especially in the Lord’s work, it really doesn’t matter whether the thing is “important” or not. The saying is true that there are no little jobs, only little people — people of too little character to see the value of work well done.

Our real attitude toward service is probably not measured by our performance in the big, glorious situations but rather by our steadfastness in the small, inglorious ones. *“He who is faithful in what is least is faithful also in much; and he who is unjust in what is least is unjust also in much.”* As has been said, a person can’t be trusted with a big job who won’t give his best to a little one.

Whatever we do in the Lord, we can do it knowing that it will accomplish something worthwhile. That’s true because it is the Lord, not we ourselves, who will take it and turn it into something good. It doesn’t depend on us or the “importance” of what we’ve done. So Paul said, “Be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that your labor is not in vain in the Lord” (1 Corinthians 15:58). *Our labor is not in vain in the Lord!* No matter what the job is, it’s not in vain if it’s in the Lord.

“When you are invited by anyone to a wedding feast,” Jesus said, “do not sit down in the best place, lest one more honorable than you be invited by him; and he who invited you and him come and say to you, ‘Give place to this man,’ and then you begin with shame to take the lowest place.

But when you are invited, go and sit down in the lowest place, so that when he who invited you comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, go up higher.’ Then you will have glory in the presence of those who sit at the table with you. For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted” (Luke 14:8-11). So in heaven, there may be some surprises. The most exalted places of honor may be filled by simple souls whose work in this world was hardly ever noticed.

“If a man is called to be a streetsweeper, he should sweep streets even as Michelangelo painted, or Beethoven composed music, or Shakespeare wrote poetry. He should sweep streets so well that all the hosts of heaven and earth will pause to say: ‘Here lived a great streetsweeper who did his job well’” (Martin Luther King Jr.). Word Points

Seeing Eye to Eye

Doy Moyer

Why do some people not see religious things the way we see them? Why is there so much difference between what we teach and what the denominations profess? Do we not all have the same Bible? Are we not all trying to serve the same God? Do we not all believe in the same Savior? These are perplexing questions, and they are not easily answered to everyone’s satisfaction.

Basically, our understanding of the Scriptures differs from the majority of the religious world because we operate on a different principle of interpretation. To most religious people “truth” is relative, adjusting freely to different times and

circumstances. For us, however, truth is truth. It is unalterable, unchangeable, and everlasting. But did “we” just arbitrarily decide this would be our regard for truth? Not at all. God’s own word boldly claims “thy word is truth” (John 17:17) and “the word of the Lord is right; and all His works are done in truth” (Psalm 33:4).

While there are scoffers at the idea of absolute truth, we accept Bible teaching that such does exist, and we are determined to know it. Pilate’s piercing question, “What is truth?” (John 18:38) was prompted by these words from Jesus “I have come into the world that I should bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth hears My voice.” This then, is the basis upon which we may come to see religious matters alike. There must be a commitment to the same standard of truth.

No one would ever attempt to use differing standards of measurement if building a house, marking off a football field, or sewing a garment. This would guarantee error and disaster. Twelve inches must equal one foot on all our rulers if we desire uniformity. There must be a healthy regard and respect for the Bible on the part of every religious person in order for understanding to occur. Without this common devotion to God’s word, all efforts to see things the same will fail. In order to come to agreement on matters essential to salvation, we must begin where we agree. From this point we must study the Scriptures, resolving differences as we go along. Major problems of difference

are solved in small steps, and then we can be united in Christ. But we will never see things the same if we cannot agree on the existence, necessity, and location of the truth.

No Bible discussion is profitable unless every participant is a truth seeker. If everyone concerned really wants the truth, then coming to an agreement and an understanding of truth will be achievable. Believe it or not, it is possible to discuss religious differences without becoming rude or creating hurt feelings. People who love the truth are not concerned with who is right, but with what is right. Every truth seeker is willing to surrender any position if it is false. There is no other honorable course for an honest man. An honest man will seek the truth, and when he finds it he will believe it. “Buy the truth, and do not sell it, also wisdom and instruction and understanding” (Proverbs 23:23).

God Loves Even Me

Robert F. Turner

It is hard to love an alcoholic. Wives have tried, and cried! The heart longs for tenderness, and receives a cursing rebuke. Efforts to please go unnoticed; his special dish which was prepared with loving care is cold and uneaten, as he tarries at the bar. Or, a husband finds the mother of his children in a drunken stupor, while the baby sobs pitifully.

The alcoholic sobers, and weeps bitter tears of remorse. He is forgiven, and everyone pledges a new start — and a few hours later we discover that there were cold checks out even while we were seeking to work off the last indebtedness. The savings released to pay those checks is spent on more alcohol instead — and, if we raise our voice in exasperation, we are told that this eternal nagging drives him to drink.

There is no love like mothers love — and I have known mothers to shake with emotion as they pondered the unanswered problem. One mother acknowledged that her only peace was the uneasy rest she experienced while her son was in prison. There, he has food, and a bed, she said, and I know where he is. Still, she sought his release — and was hurt again.

The wife pretends not to hear the neighbors talk about her husband’s unfaithfulness, and the husband tries to see his youthful bride in place of the slothful old sot who sprawls on the divan while he straightens the house. Until human endurance reaches its limit! Until love is smothered, and its embers glow only in fitful memories that come to haunt dreams. Yes, it is hard to love an alcoholic!

But God loves alcoholics! While they were yet drinking, He gave His Son to die for them. (Rom. 5:6-10) God does not love their ways, but he does love them, and His unselfish love has prompted many an alcoholic to change his ways and obey the Lord so that his sins may be forgiven. (Acts 2:38)

I’m glad God loves alcoholics — and the rest of us sinners who get hung up on pride, fleshly appetite, money, etc.,