



Be Blameless (I Thessalonians 5:12-28)

Instruction Central

“And we urge you, brethren, to **recognize those who labor among you**, and are **over you** in the Lord and **admonish you**, and to **esteem them** very highly in love for their work’s sake. **Be at peace** among yourselves. Now we exhort you, brethren, **warn those** who are **unruly**, **comfort the fainthearted**, **uphold the weak**, be **patient with all**. See that **no one renders evil for evil** to anyone, but always **pursue what is good** both for yourselves and for all. **Rejoice always**, **pray without ceasing**, **in everything give thanks**; for **this is the will of God** in Christ Jesus for you. **Do not quench the Spirit**. **Do not despise prophecies**. **Test all things**; **hold fast what is good**. **Abstain from every form of evil.**” I Thessalonians 5:12-22 NKJV

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and to **esteem them very highly** in love **for their work's sake**.

Be at **peace** among yourselves." I Thessalonians 5:12-13 NKJV

☑ **Recognize those in ministry who serve, lead, advise, warn, and reprimand you...**

☑ Esteem them very highly!

☑ **"Let the elders who rule well** be counted worthy of **double honor**, especially those who **labor in the word and doctrine**." I Timothy 5:17 NKJV

☑ Context...

☑ The laborer is worthy of his wages.

☑ Accusation against an elder must be very measured.

☑ *"For the Scripture says, "You shall not muzzle an ox while it treads out the grain," and, "**The laborer is worthy of his wages**." Do not receive an **accusation against an elder** except from two or three witnesses."*

I Timothy 5:18-19 NKJV

☑ God's ministers!

☑ **"For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. Render therefore to all their due:** taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor." Romans 13:6-7 NKJV

☑ Context...

- ☑ True governing authorities are appointed by God.
- ☑ They are ministers of God.
- ☑ When you resist them you are resisting God.
- ☑ Respect them! They are in the position to judge on God's behalf, but respect them also because it is the right thing to do.
- ☑ *"Let every soul be subject to the **governing authorities**. For there is no authority **except from God**, and the authorities that exist are **appointed by God**. Therefore whoever **resists the authority resists the ordinance of God**, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. **For he is God's minister to you for good**. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is **God's minister**, an avenger to **execute wrath on him who practices evil**. Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath **but also for conscience' sake**." Romans 13:1-5 NKJV*

- ☑ **Note to leaders:** *"be ready to punish all disobedience **when your obedience is fulfilled.**"* ||
Corinthians 10:6 NKJV

- ☑ **Peace among yourselves...**

- ☑ Unity under good leadership brings harmony!

- ☑ *"Now we **exhort** you, brethren, warn **those** who are **unruly**, **comfort the fainthearted**, **uphold the weak**, be **patient with all**. See that **no one renders evil for evil** to anyone, but always **pursue what is good** both for yourselves and for all."* |

Thessalonians 5:14-15 NKJV

- ☑ **Responsibilities of Leadership:**

- ☑ **"You are strongly advised to..."**

- ☑ Inform those who might want to be disruptive to the peace in advance, especially those who tend to resist authority and discipline.
- ☑ Alleviate the stress of those who tend to be shy, timid, and worried, by assuring them continuously.
- ☑ Defend the weak and needy.
- ☑ Be patient with everyone!
- ☑ Ensure that no one in your midst seeks revenge or in any way wants to harm someone who may have harmed them.

- ☑ Bring to light what is good at all times and make that the common pursuit of the people to whom you minister.

- ☑ ***“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks; for **this is the will of God** in Christ Jesus for you.”*** I Thessalonians 5:16-18 NKJV

- ☑ **This is the will of God...**
 - ☑ **Rejoice always:** Reflect joy, a state of happiness that exists independent of current circumstances.
 - ☑ *“Now godliness with contentment is great gain.”* I Timothy 6:6 NKJV
 - ☑ Contentment is all areas of life because you have inner peace that is generated by your continual satisfaction that stems from your relationship with God.
 - ☑ **Pray without ceasing:** exist in a constant state of reflection on the things of God—the mind of God.
 - ☑ *“But also for this very reason, giving all diligence, **add to your faith virtue...**”* II Peter 1:5 NKJV
 - ☑ Ask at all times, “What does God think about this?”
 - ☑ *“For “who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct Him?” But **we have the mind of Christ.**”* I Corinthians 2:16 NKJV

☑ **Give thanks for everything:** God is always good and can always be trusted, even when things seem to be going wrong.

☑ *"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, **with thanksgiving**, let your requests be made known to God; and **the peace of God**, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."* Philippians 4:6-7 NKJV

☑ The secret to a life of joy is prayer and petition to the only One who can satisfy your true needs. Do this while openly thanking God no matter what, and watch you fears and anxieties transform into peace and joy.

☑ ***"Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies. Test all things; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil."*** 1 Thessalonians 5:19-22 NKJV

☑ **Do not**

☑ **Do not quench the Spirit:** Don't deny the work of the Holy Spirit. Don't create situations that clearly state that the Holy Spirit is not welcomed. Don't extinguish the fire of the Holy Spirit in your midst!

☑ **Do not despise prophecies:** Do not ignore, nor be at enmity with the prophetic. Sure life is 99% pastoral and

the cares for everyday life take precedence over those things which point to the big picture of what God is doing with mankind. But that does not mean you should avoid the prophetic altogether.

- ☑ If it's important enough for God to reveal, it's important for you to recognize.
- ☑ *"Hear this word that **the Lord has spoken** against you, O children of Israel, against the whole family which I brought up from the land of Egypt, saying: "You only have I known of all the families of the earth; Therefore I will punish you for all your iniquities." **Can two walk together, unless they are agreed? Will a lion roar in the forest, when he has no prey? Will a young lion cry out of his den, if he has caught nothing? Will a bird fall into a snare on the earth, where there is no trap for it? Will a snare spring up from the earth, if it has caught nothing at all? If a trumpet is blown in a city, will not the people be afraid? If there is calamity in a city, will not the Lord have done it? Surely the Lord God does nothing, Unless He reveals His secret to His servants the prophets. A lion has roared! Who will not fear? The Lord God has spoken! Who can but prophesy?"** Amos 3:1-8 NKJV*

☑ **Do!**

☑ **Test all things:**

☑ *“Beloved, **do not believe every spirit**, but **test the spirits**, whether they are of God; because many **false prophets** have gone out into the world. **By this you know the Spirit of God**: Every spirit that **confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is of God**, and every spirit that **does not confess that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is not of God**. And this is the spirit of the Antichrist, which you have heard was coming, and is now already in the world.” I John 4:1-3 NKJV*

☑ **Hold tight to what is good (things of God) and abstain from every form of evil (things of the Devil).**

The Wholistic Gospel

“Now may the God of peace Himself **sanctify you completely**; and **may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.** Brethren, pray for us. Greet all the brethren with a **holy kiss**. I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be **read to all** the holy brethren. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.” I Thessalonians 5:23-28 NKJV

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☑ *“Now may the God of peace Himself **sanctify you completely**; and may your whole **spirit, soul, and body** be preserved **blameless at the coming** of our Lord Jesus Christ. **He** who calls you is faithful, who **also will do it.**” I Thessalonians 5:23-24 NKJV*

☑ **May the God sanctify you completely...** Holiness in all facets of life. Humans are wholistic creatures (triune beings with a spirit, soul, and body). You are called to be different (set-apart) from the world in all aspects of life.

☑ **The Spirit:** that which animates life. Humans are born with a human spirit and when they are born-again they gain access to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit does not replace the human spirit, but instead comes alongside it.

☑ Two Spirits: Your job is to chose the Holy Spirit's direction over your human spirit direction every time.

☑ *“But God has revealed them to us through **His Spirit**. For **the Spirit** searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except **the spirit of the man** which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except **the Spirit of God**. Now we have received again, not **the spirit of the world***

*[the spirit of the man], but **the Spirit who is from God**, **that we might know** the things that have been freely given to us by God [the option to be animated by the Holy Spirit and not the human spirit].” I Corinthians 2:10-12 NKJV*

☑ *”I find then a law, that evil is present with me, the one who wills to do good. For I delight in the law of God according to **the inward man** [animated by the Holy Spirit]. But I see another law in my members, **warring** against **the law of my mind** [being animated by the Holy Spirit], and bringing me into captivity to **the law of sin** which is in my members [animated by the human spirit]. O wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? **I thank God—through Jesus Christ our Lord!** So then, with the mind I myself serve **the law of God** [animated by the Holy Spirit], but with the flesh **the law of sin** [animated by the human spirit].” Romans 7:21-25 NKJV*

☑ *”There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, who do not walk according to **the flesh** [animated by the human spirit], but according to **the Spirit** [animated by the Holy Spirit]. {5} For those who live according to **the flesh** set their minds on the*

things of the flesh *[animated by the human spirit]*, but those who live according to **the Spirit**, the things of **the Spirit** *[animated by the Holy Spirit]*. {9} But you are not in **the flesh** *[animated by the human spirit]* but in **the Spirit** *[animated by the Holy Spirit]*, if indeed **the Spirit of God** dwells in you. Now if anyone **does not have the Spirit of Christ** *[animated by the Holy Spirit]*, he is **not His** *[can only be animated by the human spirit]*.

“ Romans 8:1, 5, 9 NKJV

- ☑ **The Soul (heart/mind):** your mind, will, emotions, intentions, inspirations, motivations, desires.
- ☑ Bring them all into submission to God's plan for you life.
- ☑ “casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, **bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ**,” II Corinthians 10:5 NKJV
- ☑ “And do not be conformed to this world, **but be transformed by the renewing of your mind**, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God.” Romans 12:2 NKJV
- ☑ The heart (soul) is the mind!
- ☑ “For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, **piercing even to the**

*division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a **discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.***" Hebrews 4:12 NKJV

☑ *"Delight yourself also in the Lord, And **He shall give you the desires of your heart.** Commit your way to the Lord, Trust also in Him, And He shall bring it to pass."* Psalms 37:4-5 NKJV

☑ *"For as he **thinks in his heart**, so is he..."* Proverbs 23:7 NKJV

☑ **The Body:** the human body is the dwelling place for the the Holy Spirit, human spirit, and the soul.

☑ What is occupying your body? The Body of Christ?

☑ *"Do you not know that **you are the temple of God** and that **the Spirit of God dwells in you?** If anyone **defiles the temple** of God, God will destroy him. For **the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.**"* I Corinthians 3:16-17 NKJV

☑ *"**Flee sexual immorality.** Every sin that a man does is outside the body, but he who commits sexual immorality sins against his own body. **Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price;***

therefore **glorify God in your body** and in your spirit, which are God's." I Corinthians 6:18-20 NKJV

☑ The Body of Satan!

☑ "After these things I saw another angel coming down from heaven, having great authority, and the earth was illuminated with his glory. And he cried mightily with a loud voice, saying, "**Babylon the great is fallen, is fallen, and has become a dwelling place of demons, a prison for every foul spirit, and a cage for every unclean and hated bird! For all the nations have drunk of the wine of the wrath of her fornication, the kings of the earth have committed fornication with her, and the merchants of the earth have become rich through the abundance of her luxury.**" Revelation 18:1-3 NKJV

☑ When Christ returns, He will find that the Body of Christ has become His spotless bride. This will happen regardless of what your current theology teaches!

☑ The Spotless Bride!

☑ "**Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such**

thing, but that she should be **holy and without blemish.**" Ephesians 5:25-27 NKJV

☑ "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, **and His wife has made herself ready.**" **And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen,** clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints." Revelation 19:7-8 NKJV

☑ "And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints **for the work of ministry,** for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, **to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ;**" Ephesians 4:11-13 NKJV

☑ "Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, **with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory,** just as by the Spirit of the Lord." II Corinthians 3:17-18 NKJV

- ☑ *“Brethren, **pray for us. Greet all the brethren** with a **holy kiss**. I charge you by the Lord that **this epistle be read to all** the holy brethren. The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.” I Thessalonians 5:25-28 NKJV*

- ☑ **Final Instructions**

- ☑ Pray for us!
- ☑ Greet everyone with love and affection (a holy kiss)!
- ☑ Read this letter to everyone!

NEXT TEACHING

Manifest Evidence (II Thessalonians 1:1-12)