Filthy Language

We are all familiar with the situation. A fellow student begins a joke of filth and we are trapped by the four walls of the classroom. A coworker gets angry and begins spewing profanity and there is nowhere to hide. A man in front of us in the store line runs a string of expletives that would make any moral person blush. Even the least observant person notes the all encompassing language of filth. The Christian can scarcely find quality programs on television to watch without being subject to profanity. Every single movie that we pay to see throws foul language in at some point.

The Christian is bombarded with filthy language from day to day as we live and work among the ungodly. Like Lot of old, we are, "Sore distressed by the lascivious life of the wicked (for that righteous man dwelling among them, in seeing and hearing, vexed his righteous soul from day to day with their lawless deeds)" (2 Peter 2:7-8). Our ears cringe at the hearing of filthy jokes, adulterous and sexually immoral conversation, and an overall casual use of filthy language. God's word commands, "Let no corrupt speech proceed out of your mouth, but such as is good for edifying as the need may be, that it may give grace to them that hear" (Ephesians 4:29). Filthy language does not edify nor give grace to them who hear. Filthy language only destroys and numbs the brain to all that is good and holy. While Solomon commands the godly to "put away from thee a wayward mouth, and perverse lips put far from thee" (Proverbs 4:24) we are nonetheless helpless to remove the wicked tongue from all around us.
The Bible tells us that those who use filthy language are "worthless" (Proverbs 6:12). These worthless people violate the standard of Jehovah God (Ephesians 5:3-5). They are considered worthless because their language brings nothing of true value to the table. Those who hear filth are no better spiritually. The righteous, on the other hand, speak words that encourage, strengthen, and produce faith in others (Colossians 4:6).

The righteous are concerned about the words that come from their mouth. The righteous will guard their tongues and have a passionate hatred for the perverse tongue (see Proverbs 8:7-9, 13). The righteous, as well as the wicked, are easily identified by the language they use (Proverbs 10:31-32). While the righteous edify with their tongues the wicked "revile" (i.e., use abusive language - see American Heritage Dictionary pp. 1058) (1 Corinthians 6:9-10 / Colossians 3:8).

The apostle Peter wrote, "For hereunto were ye called: because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, that ye should follow his steps: who did no sin, neither was guile found in his mouth: who when he was reviled, reviled not again; when he suffered, threatened not; but committed himself to him that judges righteously: who his own self bare our sins in his body upon the tree, that we, having died unto sins, might live unto righteousness; by whose stripes ye were healed" (1 Peter 3:21-24). When others heaped abusive language upon Jesus he took it. There was no bitter hatred that spewed from the lips of Jesus. There was no "guile in his mouth." When others reviled (mocked with abusive language) Jesus returned none of their folly.

The best thing for the Christian to do is continue to speak words of grace and edification. We cannot stop the world from their filth yet we can be a good influence of the people around us. Though the whole world uses their mouths to spew filth let it never be so with the Christian. Let us stop our ears to their filth and do the best we can to filter out all the ungodliness around us.

Local News:

Welcome to all our visitors:

We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please do come back at your every opportunity!

Nell Hulsey continues to struggle with the effects of numerous strokes. She is weak and has lost a lot of weight yet continues to be positive. Keep Nell in your prayers.

Nina Gray is home recovering from surgery. The doctors have told her that it will be a long slow process. Keep her in your daily prayers.

Pat Robertson received a favorable report from the heart doctor. She is not scheduled to go back to him for about six months.

Shut-ins:

Stella Davidson
696-1030 (Home)

Calvin York
692-0489 (Home)

Ila Belle Windham
(at home but request no calls at this time)
The Church in Prophecy
Matthew 6:9-13

Introduction:

The church of Christ is comprised of baptized believers known as citizens in the kingdom of God (Acts 2:37-42; 1 Corinthians 12:12-13; 1 Thessalonians 2:12). The people in God's kingdom are bought with the blood of Jesus Christ (Acts 20:28; Revelation 5:9-10). The kingdom of God / church was foretold of coming into existence hundreds of years before it actually was established. This lesson shall examine the church in prophecy and its fulfillment.

I. The Kingdom of God / Church in Prophecy:
   1. A savior was to reign upon the throne of David (2 Samuel 7:12-17).
   2. This savior would represent a government of righteousness (Isaiah 9:6-7).

II. When did the Scriptures tell of this Kingdom coming into Existence?
   A. The "latter days" (Isaiah 2:1-3; Daniel 2:28).
   B. The Roman Empire would be the ruling world Empire at that time (Daniel 2:43-45; 11:38-40).
   C. A time when the new law would go forth from Jerusalem (Isaiah 2:2ff; Luke 24:46-49).
   D. When a display of power was manifest (Mark 9:1; Luke 24:49).

III. Has the kingdom of God / Church been Established?
   A. During the days of Jesus the Roman Empire was in Power (Luke 3:1-2; Acts 18:1-2).
   B. Jesus preached the nearness of the kingdom (Matthew 4:17).
   C. The day of Pentecost was identified as "the latter days" (Acts 2:16-17; 3:24)
   E. Church / kingdom in existence at Acts 5:11

Conclusion:

The kingdom of God is the church (1 Thessalonians 1:12; Revelation 5:9-10). Those who have baptized for the forgiveness of their sins have been added to the kingdom of God / church (Acts 2:38-42). God's kingdom has been established. This church of people are organized locally and have been commanded of God to perform works. To achieve the work of the church God has equipped it with various offices of organization. We shall discuss the work, organization, and worship of the church in the coming weeks. Have you been added to the Lords church?