

Messenger Of Truth

"Holding forth the Word of Life" (Phil. 2:16).

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Inactivity

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing." – Edmund Burke, letter to William Smith, Jan. 9, 1795

"One does evil enough when one does nothing good." – German Proverb

"Between the great things we cannot do and the little things we will not do, the danger is that we will do nothing." – H.G. Weaver

"To do nothing is in every man's power." – Samuel Johnson

For far too long man has convinced himself that neutrality is the best decision. Biblically, there is no such thing as neutrality. "Whoever is on the LORD's side – come to me!" (Exod. 32:26). "I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing; therefore choose life, that both you and your descendants may live" (Deut. 30:19). "...choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve" (Josh. 24:15). "How long will you falter between two opinions?" (1 Kings 18:21). "No one can serve two masters..." (Matt. 6:24).

When man seeks neutrality, and chooses to do nothing, it sickens our Lord. In a scathing rebuke to the church in Laodicea, our Lord said, "I know your works, that you are neither cold nor hot. I could wish you were cold or hot. So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth" (Rev. 3:15-17).

Failing to take a stand, failing to act, places one as a servant of Satan. "Therefore, to him who knows to do good and does not do it, to him it is sin" (James 4:17).

When one fails to act, to stand for righteousness, can we not say it is cowardice? "He who overcomes shall inherit all things, and I will be his God and he shall be My son. But the cowardly, unbelieving, abominable, murderers, sexually immoral, sorcerers, idolaters, and all liars shall have their part in the lake which burns with fire and brimstone, which is the second death" (Rev. 21:7-8). Isn't it interesting that the very first ones identified as not having the right to the holy city are the cowardly?

One of the amazing trends in the church is to have seminars, workshops, and lectureships stressing the need to evangelize. And after they are over, life goes on as before. We pat ourselves on the back for addressing the need, but fail to implement the very things that we tell others are essential.

Inactivity remains a grave problem. How well we can cite the verses and blister others for failing to do what needs to be done. Perhaps we need to remember the proverb, "Physician, heal yourself" (Luke 4:23).