

WELCOME!

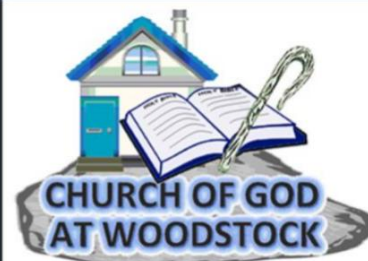
SABBATH GREETINGS FROM GOD THE FATHER AND OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST



**TRUTH ON THE
WEB MINISTRIES**

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EPH 6:17 AND TAKE...THE SWORD OF THE
SPIRIT WHICH IS THE WORD OF GOD
A CHURCH OF GOD IN WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS



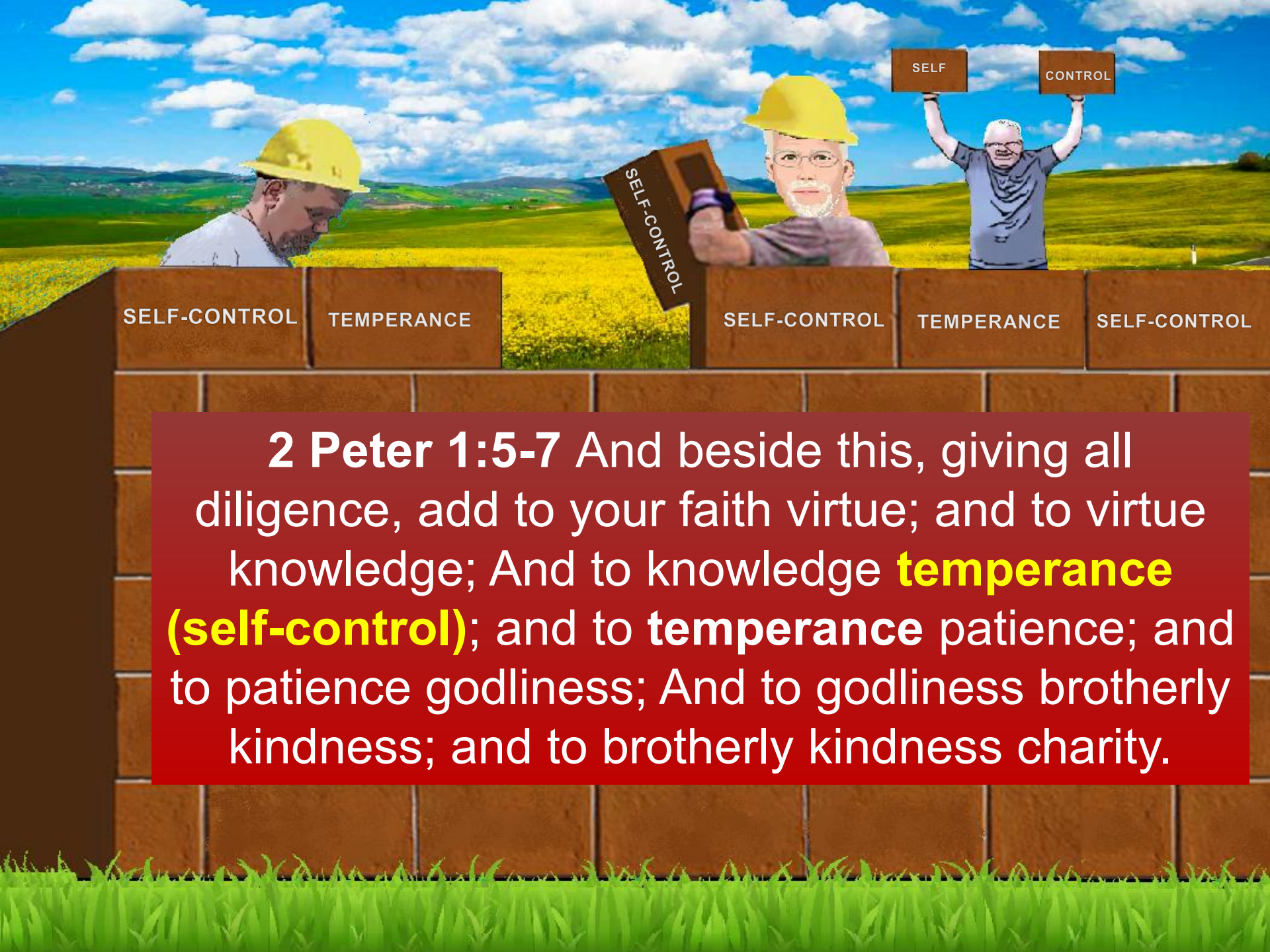


THE CHRISTIAN CHARACTER OF

SELF-CONTROL

By Kenneth M. Hoeck

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2 Peter 1:5-7 And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge; And to knowledge **temperance (self-control)**; and to **temperance** patience; and to patience godliness; And to godliness brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness charity.



Successful Character Building

- **Total commitment to follow Christ**



Successful Character Building

- **Total commitment to follow Christ**
- **Dedication to develop yourself**



Successful Character Building

- **Total commitment to follow Christ**
- **Dedication to develop yourself**
- **Decision to put on Christ wisely and deliberately – from faith, not impulse or ignorance**



TOTAL COMMITMENT & DEDICATION

Luke 9:59-62 (KJV) And he said unto another, **Follow me.** But he said, Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father. Jesus said unto him, Let the dead bury their dead: but go thou and preach the kingdom of God. And another also said, Lord, I will follow thee; but let me first go bid them farewell, which are at home at my house. And Jesus said unto him, **No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.**



TOTAL COMMITMENT & DEDICATION

Psalm 78:8 And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; **a generation *that* set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not steadfast with God.** 9 The children of Ephraim, *being* armed, *and* carrying bows, **turned back in the day of battle** 10 They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law; 11 And forgot his works, and his wonders that he had shewed them.



TOTAL COMMITMENT & DEDICATION

Ecclesiastes 5:4-5 When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for *he hath* no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. Better *is it* that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay.

Proverbs 20:25 *It is* a snare to the man *who* devoureth *that which* is holy, and after vows to make inquiry.

WARNING!

- **Revelation 3:14-16** And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God; I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

WARNING!

- **Revelation 3:17-19** Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked: I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see. As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

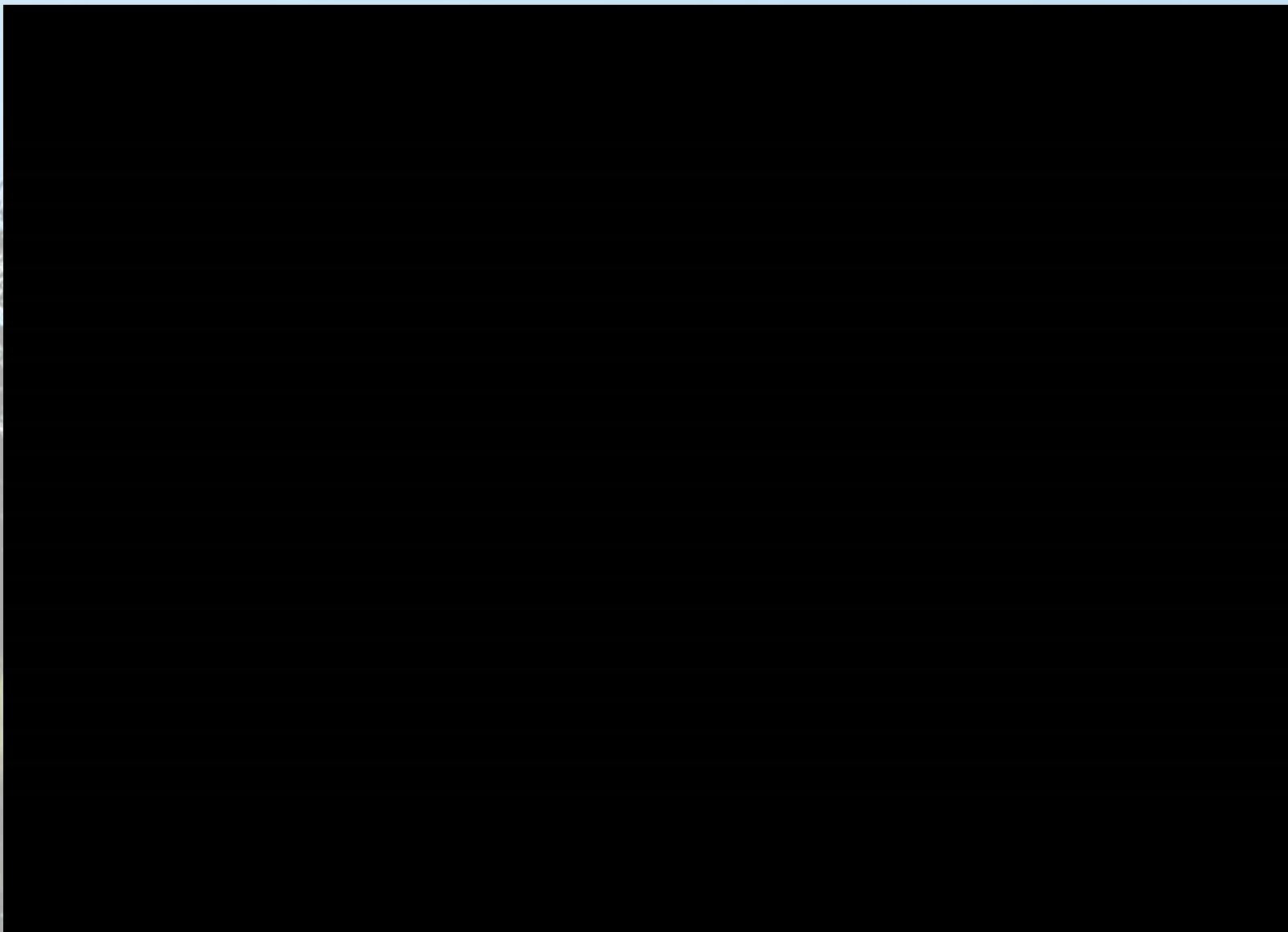
WARNING!

- **2 Timothy 3:1-5** This know also, that in the last days perilous times shall come. For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, Without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God; Having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof: from such turn away.

It's Necessary

- **Galatians 5:22-23 (KJV)** But the fruit of the Spirit is **love**, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, **temperance:** against such there is no law.
- **Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT)** 22 But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: **love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, and **self-control**.
There is no law against these things!

MARSHMALLOW TEST



WORD STUDY

- **TEMPERANCE**
- Strong's Greek Dictionary 1466. ἐγκρατεία *egkrateia eng-krat'-i-ah* from 1468; **self-control** (especially continence):—**temperance**. See Greek 1468
- Strong's Greek Dictionary 1467. ἐγκρατεύομαι *enkrateúomai, eng-krat-yoo'-om-ahee* middle voice from G1468; **to exercise self-restraint** (in diet and chastity):—can(-not) **contain, be temperate**. *verb*
- Strong's Greek Dictionary 1468. ἐγκρατής *egkrates eng-krat-ace'* from 1722 and 2904; **strong in a thing (masterful)**, i.e. (figuratively and reflexively) **self-controlled** (in appetite, etc.):—temperate.

MOVE FORWARD IN FAITH

Strong's Greek Dictionary 1466. εγκράτεια egkrateia

1) **Galatians 5:23** Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

2) **Acts 24:24-25** And after certain days, when Felix came with his wife Drusilla, which was a Jewess, he sent for Paul, and heard him concerning the faith in Christ. And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled, and answered, Go thy way for this time; when I have a convenient season, I will call for thee.

• **2 Peter 1:6** And to knowledge **temperance (self-control)** ; and **to temperance (self-control)** patience; and to patience godliness;

MOVE FORWARD IN FAITH

Strong's Greek Dictionary 1467. ἐγκρατεύομαι enkrateúomai

- **Titus 2:2 (KJV)** That the aged men be sober, grave, temperate, sound in faith, in charity, in patience.
- **1 Corinthians 9:25 (KJV)** And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they *do it* to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

MOVE FORWARD IN FAITH

Strong's Greek Dictionary 1468. εγκρατης egkrates

- **Titus 1:7-9 (KJV)** For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre; But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate; Holding fast the faithful word as he hath been taught, that he may be able by sound doctrine both to exhort and to convince the gainsayers.



KILLING YOUR SELF TO LIVE

- The “restraint exercised over one’s own impulses, emotions, or desires” (Merriam-Webster)
- **Colossians 3:5-6 Mortify therefore your members which are upon the earth; fornication, uncleanness, inordinate affection, evil concupiscence, and covetousness, which is idolatry: For which things' sake the wrath of God cometh on the children of disobedience:**



WORKS OF THE FLESH

- **Galatians 5:19-21** Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are *these*; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness, Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies, Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told *you* in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.



FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT

Galatians 5:22-25 But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, **temperance:** against such there is no law. **And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.** If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit



SELF-CONTROL

- **Control to do what is right**
- **Luke 6:46** And why call ye me, Lord, Lord, and do not the things which I say?
- **Control to abstain from sin**
- **1 Thessalonians 5:21-22** Prove all things; hold fast that which is good. Abstain from all appearance of evil.



SELF-CONTROL

- **Control to abstain from sin**
- **2 Timothy 2:19-20** Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ **depart from iniquity.** But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour.



SELF-CONTROL

- Control to abstain from sin
- **2 Timothy 2:21-22** If a man therefore **purge himself from these**, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and meet for the master's use, *and* prepared unto every good work. **Flee also youthful lusts:** but follow righteousness, faith, charity, peace, with them that call on the Lord out of a pure heart.



SELF-CONTROL

- **Control to abstain from sin**
- **1 Peter 2:11-12** Dearly beloved, I beseech *you* as strangers and pilgrims, **abstain from fleshly lusts**, which **war** against the soul; Having your conversation honest among the Gentiles: that, whereas they speak against you as evildoers, they may by *your* good works, which they shall behold, glorify God in the day of visitation.



Self-control is Required

- **Because we can be deceived**
 - **By sin, Heb 3:12-13; Romans 7:11**



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1 Cor 15:33-34**



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 - By sin, Heb 3:12-13; Romans 7:11
 - By those who do not know God, 1 Cor 15:33-34
 - By ourselves into thinking we will not reap what we sow, Gal 6:7-8; 1 John 1:8-10
- ***Self-control is necessary in order to resist temptation! Jas 1:14-15***



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- Because we can become weary, thinking the reward will never come, Gal 6:9



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 - In contrast to the immediate (though temporary) pleasures of sin, Heb 11:25
 - **Salvation closer daily, Rom 13:11-14**
 - ***Self-control is necessary in order to keep doing what is right! Jas 4:17***



SELF-CONTROL

- VICTIM OR VICTOR?

- **Proverbs 25:28** He that *hath* no rule over his own spirit *is like* a city *that is broken down, and without walls.*
- **Proverbs 16:32** *He that is* slow to anger *is* better than the mighty; and he that ruleth his spirit than he that taketh a city.



Self-control in all things

1 Cor 9:24-27

- **Over your emotions**, Eph 4:26-27
 - Slow to anger, not impulsive, Prov 14:29; 29:11



Self-control in all things

1 Cor 9:24-27

- Over your emotions, Eph 4:26-27
 - Slow to anger, not impulsive, Prov 14:29; 29:11
- **Over your tongue**, Jas 1:19-20
 - Maturity, Jas 3:2; Prov 17:27-28 (29:20)
 - *Guard your tongue*, Eph 4:29; 5:3-8



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- **For moral purity, Titus 2:11-12**



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 - Partying/Fornication 1 Pet 4:3; Titus 2:12
 - Greed, mammon 1 Tim 6:9-10
 - ***Guard your name, influence and involvement, Eph 5:6-7***
- **Over your heart, Gal 5:24**



CONTROL YOUR THOUGHTS

“Our minds are mental greenhouses where unlawful thoughts, once planted, are nurtured and watered before being transplanted into the real world of unlawful actions... These actions are savored in the mind long before they are enjoyed in reality. The thought life, then, is our first line of defense in the battle of self-control.” [**Jerry Bridges**, *The Practice of Godliness*, NavPress, 1996, p. 138.]



CONTROL YOUR THOUGHTS

2 Corinthians 10:3-5 For though we walk in the flesh, we don't wage war according to the flesh; for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, **but mighty before God to the throwing down of strongholds, throwing down imaginations and every high thing that is exalted against the knowledge of God, and bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ;**



CONTROL YOUR THOUGHTS

Matthew 5:29, “And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast *it* from thee: for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not *that* thy whole body should be cast into hell.”

Matthew 11:12, “And from the days of John the Baptist **until now the kingdom of heaven suffereth violence, and the violent take it by force.**”

GIVE GOD CONTROL

1. Self-control is measured by our ability to conform ourselves, through the power of the Spirit, with complete devotion to the will of Christ, (Col 3:17).
2. To be able to do “what we must do” (Col 3:13) as well as abstain from what we must not do (1 Pet 2:11).

1 Timothy 6:12 (KJV) Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

Our *bodies* are inclined to ease, pleasure, gluttony, and sloth. Unless we **practice self-control**, our bodies will tend to serve evil more than God. We must carefully **discipline ourselves** in how we “walk” in this *world*, else we will conform more to its ways rather than to the ways of Christ. - **Donald Whitney**, *Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life*, 1991, p. 132,

THANK
YOU!

Have a great
REST of the
SABBATH!

