

Provisions for the Worn Out: Part 3

September 2, 2020

Discussion Question: What foolish, ignorant controversies that divided you from another individual do you wish you had avoided?

Daniel 7:25 *"And he shall speak great words against the most High, and shall wear out the saints of the most High, and think to change times and laws: and they shall be given into his hand until a time and times and the dividing of time."* [KJV]

The enemy of our soul desires to wear us out.?

1. Questions
2. Quaking (Fear)

TODAY: (How does he wear us out?)

3. Quarreling

2 Tim 2:24 *"And the Lord's servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil."* [ESV]

First, let's distinguish between quarreling and debating.

- A good debate is a discussion with the desire for truth. A good debate is healthy. A good debate can be spirited (intense) and still civil in discussing the opposing view. A quarrel is to dispute angrily maybe to the point of an altercation with no desire for truth.
- Quarrels are about each side wanting to destroy their opposition. One person has stated that we quarrel from entrenched positions; the winner is the one that shouted down the other. When quarreling facts don't matter.

Satan has no truth in him; NONE! He is a liar and was one from the beginning. One of his schemes is quarreling. Paul also calls it a snare by which he catches us to do his will. Hear that....to do his will. (2 Timothy 2:26) He snares us by **foolish, ignorant controversies; that breed quarrels (KJV states they gender strife) (vs. 23)**

Proverbs 20:3 *"It is an honor for a man to keep aloof from strife, but every fool will be quarreling."* [ESV]

The Bible says fools mock at sin; I contend that satan is a fool because he mocks; he is always mocking holy things.

- Physician-assisted suicide is seen as compassion.
- Pedophilia is to be viewed as tolerance
- Freedom is doing what you want not submitting to God.

Modern Day Quarreling:

- Deans of Universities & Students
- Divorce
- Debating Past: "If we open a quarrel between past and present, we shall find that we have lost the future." Winston Churchill
- Disciples: Churches quarreling over going to church. Disciples of Jesus can get snared into quarreling. The 12 argued over who is the greatest...their qualifications.

What is the provision for quarreling?

A. Avoid

Titus 3:1-2 *"Remind them to be submissive to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, 2 to speak evil of no one, **to avoid quarreling**, to be gentle, and to show perfect courtesy toward all people... 9 But **avoid** foolish controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. 10 As for a person who stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, have nothing more to do with him, 11 knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; he is self-condemned."* [ESV]

Avoid the arguments & if need be Avoid the person that stirs up division.

B. Accurate

2 Tim 2:14-17 *"Remind them of these things, and charge them before God not to quarrel about words, which does no good, but only ruins the hearers. 15 Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly handling the word of truth. 16 But avoid irreverent babble, for it will lead people into more and more ungodliness, 17 and their talk will spread like gangrene."* [ESV]

C. Accept

Person that's Weak: Rom 14:1 *"As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him (receive, KJV; accept, NASU), but not to quarrel over opinions."* [ESV]

Position of Contentment: 1 Tim 6:3-8 *"If anyone teaches a different doctrine and does not agree with the sound words of our Lord Jesus Christ and the teaching that accords with godliness, 4 he is puffed up with conceit and understands nothing. He has an unhealthy craving for controversy and for quarrels about words, which produce envy, dissension, slander, evil suspicions, 5 and constant friction among people who are depraved in mind and deprived of the truth, imagining that godliness is a means of gain. 6 Now there is great gain in godliness with contentment, 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. 8 But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content."* [ESV]

D. Attentive

James 4:1 *"What is the source of quarrels and conflicts among you? Is not the source your pleasures that wage war in your members?"* [NASU]

4:1 *"What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you?"*

James 1:19-21 *"Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness that God requires. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls."* [ESV]