

Messenger of Truth

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

October 11, 2016

Issue No. 268 Mark Aites, Editor

Balance

"What is joy without sorrow? What is success without failure? What is a win without a loss? What is health without illness? You have to experience each if you are to appreciate the other. There is always going to be suffering. It's how you look at your suffering, how you deal with it, that will define you." – Mark Twain

"Life is like riding a bicycle. To keep your balance, you must keep moving." – Albert Einstein

"Balance, peace, and joy are the fruit of a successful life. It starts with recognizing your talents and finding ways to serve others using them." – Thomas Kinkade

"The key to keeping your balance is knowing when you've lost it." – Anonymous

"Extremes are easy. Strive for balance." – Colin Wright

Balance is actually an important part of our lives. We rely on it in so many ways. We need balance with our inner ear in order that we might walk normally. When we get new tires for our cars, we get our tires balanced so that the car does not shake. We have a load of clothes in our washing machines, that if they shift, and are out of balance, they can make a terrible noise.

Isn't it ironic that we want balance in a host of ways and yet struggle with it the way we live our own lives. Some are so extreme in their conservatism they are radical, and some are the opposite and so liberal that they are willing to accept anything, even if Scripture contradicts it.

Some are also out of balance when it comes to temperament. Their attitude can vary from being too accepting to harsh.

Scripture notes: "Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left" (Deut. 5:32). This is a far cry from the days of the Judges, "In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes" (Judg. 17:6).

Even our Lord expressed the need for balance when He said, "Behold, I send you out as sheep in the midst of wolves. Therefore be wise as serpents and harmless as doves" (Matt. 10:16).

It is truly amazing how many Christians are "out of balance." And the tragedy is they may not even be aware of it. And what is really sad is that they often do more harm than good. It is hard to be a people of "good works" (Eph. 2:10), when one is seriously out of balance.