

## ***Unlawful Attitudes***

Last week I stopped at a three-way stop at about the same time as two other cars. I waited for them to go and before I could enter the intersection, two other cars ran the two stop signs. This was new to me. On many occasions, people have run a stop sign at this particular intersection, but never, until last week, did two people run through the intersection unlawfully at the same time. It made me think about our society. Evidently this type of unlawful activity is becoming popular. May I suggest some reasons why this is probably the case?

**1.** People have a lack of respect for the law and for authority. Their motto seems to be: "If I'm not caught then who cares." Of course such an attitude toward unlawful activity is a violation of the word of God. Peter said, "Submit yourselves to every ordinance of man for the Lord's sake: whether it be to the king, as supreme; or unto governors, as unto them that are sent by him for the punishment of evildoers, and for the praise of them that do well" (1 Peter 2:13-14).

**2.** People have a lack of respect for their fellowman. Jesus taught, "Therefore all things whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is the law and the prophets" (Matthew 7:12). These same rude and inconsiderate people would get upset if someone did the same thing to them. Or even more likely, they might have a wreck in the intersection and possibly hurt someone.

**3.** Many people are so selfish that they simply do whatever pleases them. They are the standard and whatever benefits them is best! This is the opposite attitude of a Christian. Paul said, "Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves. Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others" (Phil. 2:3-4).

**4.** Many people simply do not fear God. They are not concerned about pleasing Him, and they have no desire to obey His commandments. How sad that people are so selfish, so disrespectful, and so rebellious toward God and toward authority, and toward their fellowman. May we always remember the admonition of Solomon. "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God, and keep his commandments: for this is the whole duty of man. For God shall bring every work into judgment, with every secret thing, whether it be good, or whether it be evil" (Ecclesiastes 12:13-14).

Let us always respect the law, respect our fellowman, and especially respect and reverence the Almighty God. "And when Abram was ninety years old and nine, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said unto him, I am the Almighty God; walk before me, and be thou perfect" (Gen.17:1).

By Dan C. Bailey

## ***Edifier***

***Evant church of Christ***

***310 W Brooks Drive***

***Evant, TX 76525***

***254-471-5705***

***March 3, 2024***



*Attending church services regularly is like making a path through the forest: the more often you use it, the less obstruction you find in the way."*

**Sunday Worship:**

**9:30 am Bible Study**

**10:20 am Worship**

**12:30 pm Afternoon**

**Wednesday Night**

**6:00 pm**

**Will Vann, Preacher**

**863-899-0987**

**Email: [wvann@yahoo.com](mailto:wvann@yahoo.com)**

**[www.evantchurchofchrist.org](http://www.evantchurchofchrist.org)**

***Discouraged, Disappointed,  
Disenchanted, Disconnected,  
Disillusioned, Disheartened, Disengaged***

When one's expectations for local churches full of imperfect people drive their faith, they often end up facing one if not all of these "D's." I talk to so many who have walked away because they are hurt by the church. Yet their greater challenge is that they place too much emphasis on and have unrealistic expectations for a local church. Their faith is largely rooted in the local church and not in the Lord. So, when the local church fails, as it will, their faith falters.

Local churches will struggle, face challenges, and fall short (read Revelation, chapters 2 and 3 for a synopsis of failings of local first century churches). In a perfect world, local churches would never disappoint. But we live in a sinful world, and churches at their best are made up of struggling sinners who are forgiven. Still, Satan tempts and Christians succumb. Church members thus don't always say the right things or act the right ways. Therefore it is critical to ensure our faith is always rooted in He who will never fail us and He who will never disappoint us.

For those out there struggling to rekindle their faith and recover from their hurt, I point you to Jesus. Remember why you love and follow Him. Then you will have a basis upon which to love and labor with His imperfect, struggling people - the church. It also serves well to recall that the church we will gather with in heaven will not be made up of struggling imperfect souls, but those who were victorious. There will be no sin there. So, with that as our hope, let us rekindle our love for the Lord and His people, putting our trust primarily in Him as we strive to encourage one another to reach home.

by Jonathan Perz

*Happy Birthday*  
**Eloisa Garza March 2nd**  
**Anson Day March 28th**

*Happy Anniversary*  
**April 1st**  
**Calvin & Tammy Burks**  
**April 18th**  
**Jack & Cindi Wall**

***What Makes The  
Difference?***

- If a man has money and is not willing to have it examined, people think it is counterfeit.
- If a man is afraid to take a lie detector test, people think he is guilty of crime.
- If a man conducts a business and is unwilling to let anyone investigate it, folks think he is running a crooked business.

BUT, many preachers teach doctrines that under no circumstances will they test or allow to be tested by the Bible. Yet millions of people will accept them as upright, honest teachers of the truth, and will risk their salvation upon them. What makes the difference? The Bible instructs us to try the teachers (1 John 4:1). The truth never fears investigation!

**Those to Serve**

(B) Doug Pruett  
(FV) Mike Lovell  
(O) Judd Wall  
(A) Jack Wall  
1st prayer Mike Mallett  
2nd prayer Keith Stifflemire  
Announcements: Calvin Burks  
Singing: Kevin Grant

**March 3rd**  
*Mission Sunday*  
**March 10th**  
*Daylight Saving Begins*  
*Men's Business Meeting*  
**March 17th**  
*St. Patrick's Day*  
**March 19th**  
*Spring Begins*  
**March 31st**  
*Noon Fellowship*  
*Easter Sunday*

**Prayer List:**

Letha Sheldon  
Jorge Garza  
Joyce Windham  
Dora Martinez  
David Jones  
Tammy Parker  
Anita Adams  
Pray for our Nation  
Our Troops  
Law Enforcement  
Rescue Personnel