## **Rule for Christian Living**

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever...you can!
---John Wesley

## I've Found in Christ Alone

"I thank God for the bitter things
They've been a friend to grace
They've driven me from the paths of ease
To storm the secret place.
I thank Him for the friends who failed
To fill my heart's deep need,
They've driven me to the Savior's feet
Upon His love to feed.
I thank Him too, thru all life's way
No one could satisfy
And so I've found in Christ alone
My rich, my full supply.

Casting all your care upon Him for "it matters to Him about you."
--unknown

"Temper is what gets most of us into trouble. Pride is what keeps us there." – Unknown

"Pride leads to every other vice; it is the complete anti-God state of mind." C.S. Lewis

"You can easily judge the character of a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him." James D. Miles

"Integrity is doing the right thing even if nobody is watching." -- unknown

If you have any questions, please call me. I appreciate you.

## "God's Remedy for Pain"

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A person can be plagued with physical, mental or emotional pain. The best the world can do for us is to try to manage our pain and to help us cope. God heals it if we meet His conditions. Ecclesiastes 11:10 gives us God's condition. There it says, "So, remove vexation (grief/anger) from your heart and put away pain from your body." Pain can be put out of our bodies by removing vexation (grief and anger) from our hearts.

God has made a provision for us at Calvary. In ISA 53:3,4, it says "He was despised and forsaken of men, a man of sorrows (pain), and acquainted with grief (sickness); And like one from whom men hide their face, He was despised, and we did not esteem Him. Surely our grief (sickness) He Himself bore, and our sorrows (pain) He carried; yet, we ourselves esteemed Him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted."

The New Testament confirms this Old Testament verse in at least two places. In I Peter 2:24, it says, "And He Himself bore our sins in His body on the cross, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness for by His wounds you were healed" and in Matthew 8:16,17 where it says, "And when evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed; and He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were ill in order that what was spoken through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, saying, 'He Himself took our infirmities, and carried away our diseases."

Let God be true and every man a liar who says anything different. God's Word is true. I have witnessed many people healed of pain when they have allowed the Holy Spirit to reveal to them the source of their vexation (grief and anger) and when they forgave and broke soul ties with those people who had hurt them.

Healing is conditional. Notice in I Peter 2:24 we are instructed to do two things before healing comes: (1) die to sin (2) live to righteousness and then by His wounds we are healed.

Hosea 4 says, "My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge because you have rejected knowledge." Many of God's children are in pain, not being healed but just hanging in there; living in torment and being destroyed because of the lack of knowledge. Today, the world counsels us to seek a physician instead of the GREAT PHYSICIAN. In doing so, God's method of healing which is complete and lasting is exchanged for a cheap substitute which does not work, brings them into a greater bondage or even worse, it ends up killing them.

There are even pain management clinics to which a person can succumb to. More often than not, a person is prescribed mind-altering drugs putting them into a state of drunkenness that violates the Scriptural warning "to be sober and alert." It says in I Timothy 4:1, "In latter times men will fall away from the faith giving heed to doctrines of demons and seducing spirits."

People have shared with me that even with the drugs, they still feel the pain. Sadly, too often, additional drugs are required. Recently, a young woman confided in me that when she was given prescribed drugs for her pain, she was so numb and out of it, she would not have cared if those she loved the most had died. If the truth could be known, one might be shocked to know how many people in the USA die each day as a result of the side effects of prescription drugs. Every side effect is another physical problem. I have known people who because of the false

courage given to them by prescription drugs have killed themselves who would not have otherwise done so.

Pain is a good thing. It is God's alarm system warning us that there is unresolved hurt, grief and anger in our hearts. God uses pain to bring our souls back from the pit that we may be enlightened with the light of life (Job 33:30). The good news and the answer to our dilemma can be found in Ecclesiastes 11:10, "So, remove vexation (anger and grief) from your heart and put away pain from your body."

To remove anger and grief from the heart, we must take our pain to God, forgive, repent of letting the sun go down on our anger and break soul ties with the person(s) who caused us the pain and grief. If our pain was caused by our own failure, we must forgive ourselves, repent and ask God's forgiveness for any sin(s) we have committed. According to God's Word, healing will come when we remove every area of grief and anger from our heart.