

BEHAVE YOURSELF

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INTRODUCTION

- A. TEXT: *“These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly; but if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how men ought to behave themselves in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth.”* (V. 14-15).
1. Paul was encouraging, not just Timothy, but all Christians to learn how to behave themselves in this life.
 2. Learn how to live the Christian life.
- B. A COMMON INSTRUCTION.
1. Did you ever tell your children to “behave yourself.”
 2. Were you ever told to “Behave Yourself.”
 3. What do we mean... ‘behave as a gentleman or a lady.’
- C. THERE IS A STANDARD BY WHICH YOU WERE EXPECTED TO LIVE.
1. Manners.
 2. Obedience, our actions.
 3. Control yourself, and live up the expectations or standard.
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CONTEXT

- A. THE BIBLICAL WORD. Defined by Vine.
1. “To conduct oneself, indicating one’s manner of life or character.
 2. Eph. 2:3; our conversation..or life. Also in II Cor. 1:12.
- B. THE SETTING:
1. Paul’s instruction to Timothy concerning organization in each local congregation.
 2. The purpose; That we know how to behave or conduct our self.
- C. IN THE HOUSE OF GOD, WHICH IS THE CHURCH.
1. Not limiting this to the local assemble.
 2. But how we are to behave ourselves as Christians, a part of God’s house, family, wherever we are.
 3. How to live the Christian life.
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GOOD WORK

- A. *"Faithful is the saying, If a man seeketh the office of a bishop, he desireth a good work."* (I Tim. 3:1).
1. The importance of desiring to do good.
 2. Much has been said about elders and the great work that is theirs to do.
- B. JESUS....in Acts 10:38, we are told that he *"went about doing good."*
1. How much. *"And there are also many other things which Jesus did, the which if they should be written every one, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that should be written."* (Jn. 21:25).
 2. We need to behave, conduct ourselves like Jesus.
- C. *"So then, as we have opportunity, let us work that which is good toward all men, and especially toward them that are of the house hold of faith."* (Gal. 6:10).
1. What does it mean to do good.
 2. How are we to live, to conduct ourselves so that we are doing good?
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A GOOD MAN

- A. Acts 11:24. *"He was a good man."*
1. We don't get excited about the word "good".
 2. We are interested in clever men, men of genius. In bad men, or courageous men, in poor men and rich men, but good men.....our interest lags here, nods and goes to sleep.
 3. If people say we are handsome or cultured we are delighted, but who is complimented by being called good?
- B. WHAT WRECKED THIS WORD?
1. The answer is the casual and thoughtless way the word is used today.
 2. A person may be a "bum", never work, never support the society in which he lives, but if he commits no great crime, stays out of jail, we are apt to say; "yet, he isn't much account, it is true, but he is a good fellow."
 3. Thus the word "good" has lost its reputation.
- C. BARNABAS, THE MAN IN ACTS 11:24.... how did he behave himself, so as to be called Good.
1. What were the characteristic that go to make up a good man?
 2. It means here all that "Christian" means.
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GOD CALLED HIM GOOD

A. BECAUSE OF HIS CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIP.

1. The story.
 - a. Many from different places had become Christians.
 - b. Did not have means of support.
2. Barnabas recognized that God is the absolute owner of all things.
3. He sells that which he has, and gives it to the Lord's work.

B. BARNABAS HAD FAITH IN HIS FELLOW MAN.

1. The story of Saul of Tarsus.
 - a. At great risk, Barnabas introduced him to the church in Jerusalem.
 - b. Went after Saul, brought him to Antioch to work with the church.
2. ALSO, remember the story of John Mark. (Barnabas had faith in him.).

C. HE WAS THOROUGHLY MISSIONARY.

1. His trip with Paul.
2. Then he took Mark, and went on his own missionary journeys.

D. BARNABAS WAS A SPIRITUAL MAN.

1. He was fully given unto God.
 2. He was generous with his possessions.
 3. He was generous with his judgments. He had a brother's attitude toward his fellows.
 4. He was thoroughly missionary.
 5. "HE WAS A GOOD MAN:"
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CONCLUSION

A. THERE ARE SOME THINGS WHICH WE MAY NEVER BE.

1. Greatness, as the world knows it.
2. Genius.
3. The list could go on and on.

B. BUT ONE THING WE CAN ALL ATTAIN.

1. We can "behave ourselves" conduct ourselves as children of God.
2. Make this our manner of life and hear God say "He is a good man", "*well done good and faithful servant...*"

C. "*The good man out of the good treasure of his heart bringeth forth that which is good;* (Luke 6:45a).

D. "*He that doeth good is of God.*" (III John 11).
