

# TEMPERANCE - GOD IN CHARGE

## Galatians 5:22-24

1. Temperance is God in control or charge.
  2. A person out of control is far worse than an automobile, fire or flood waters.
  3. "Man out of control" is seen by divorces, crime, racism, sexual perversion, materialism, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, overeating and various other signs.
  4. God, our Father, in His great wisdom, planned a remedy for this sin with the "Fruit of Temperance – Self Control".
  5. Last, but surely not least, is the great need of the Church today to reach others; as it covers the whole of spirit, soul and body.
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- I. IT IS NOT JUST SHEER DETERMINATION. - IT HAS ITS VALUE, BUT FALLS FAR SHORT OF WHAT IS REQUIRED. MOST FALL NATURALLY HERE.
  - II. IT IS A REFRAINING FROM ALL WRONG FROM A BIBLICAL VIEW, NOT OURS OR THE WORLD'S.
  - III. IT IS AN EVALUATION OF WHAT IS BEST, AND ABSTAINING FROM THE REST.  
Heb. 12:1 "Let us lay aside every weight" usually not wrong within itself, but keeps us from God's best.
    - A. (EX) A man fully dressed, came to run the mile race. You would not tell him it is a sin, but will hinder him doing and giving his best.
    - B. Other Examples: TV, sports, fellowship, yard-work, resting, sleeping, newspaper, literature.
    - C. It is the avoiding of sins and good and enjoyable things, that prevent you from giving more unto God.
  - IV. IT OPERATES AND FLOWS TO STRENGTHEN US, WHEN WE HAVE THE GLORY OF GOD AS OUR GOAL IN ALL THAT WE DO.
    - A. Self-Satisfaction, Satan's substitute, is the reason most have little self-control regarding God's will and ways.
    - B. Enables us to control our lives, so that what we DO OR DO NOT DO, is in line with God's divine will.
  - V. IT INVOLVES DISCIPLINE, AS OF ONE PREPARING FOR THE GREEK RACES WITH A FULL HEART'S DESIRE TO WIN.
    1. It comes from commitment to God's purpose and plan, which enables God to give you a Heavenly reason for living.
    2. It is not a grim, dry and weary battle, BUT A SURRENDERING OF ONES' life to His divine will.
    3. Problem is desires of self and Satan, to have their way.
  - VI. THE GREAT EXAMPLE — JESUS, WHO HAD MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO HIT BACK OR QUIT. PILATE, IRKED BY HIS SILENCE, SAID "WHY DO YOU NOT ANSWER ME? DON'T YOU KNOW I HAVE THE POWER TO GIVE OR TAKE YOUR LIFE?"
    1. Source of self-control: His abilities and qualities were given direction through His sense of purpose of doing God's divine will.
    2. Cause of self-control: He always lived and acted with God's plan and purpose
    3. Power of self-control: "Not My will be done, but Thine." He operated His life in the light of the Father's will - so must we.
    4. Person of self-control Jo. 16:14 "He (Holy Spirit) shall glorify Me, He shall receive of Mine and shall shew it unto you.
  - VII. THE GREAT VICTORY WON IS NOW OURS'. "HE WAS TEMPTED IN ALL POINTS, YET WITHOUT SIN." PHIL 4:13 "I CAN DO ALL THINGS THROUGH CHRIST JESUS." - THROUGH HIS WORK VICTORY AT CALVARY FOR US.