



General Topics :: just one good thread.....

just one good thread....., on: 2010/2/6 21:49

Brethern,

this morning i was in the 1st General Epistle of John, just receiving blessing after blessing, revelations, thinking about what John must have been like, as a person, as a brother, thinking about Jesus, and it was just a joyous time in the Word, a joyous time with the Lord, and i wanted to write a post testifying to some of the fruit that i garnered from this Epistle..... this was in the morning. Well, the day intruded, and i was not able to come to the computer till now, about 2045, (8:45 p m cst) and i started to read some of the leading posts, and my heart JUST BREAKS.....this post slams this, that post "speaks out against" that, just a lot of cyber palaber about what people are against, or judging, or warning.....in short, very little of the Sweet Fragrance of the Resurrected Messiah.

why is that?

grieving and broken hearted, neil

Re: just one good thread....., on: 2010/2/6 22:20

Dear Neil,

I will give you one reason. It's because there is a myth that Christians have to meet in large buildings called churches, in order to please God by their gathering together, even although church buildings did not exist in at least the first two centuries of the church.

Quote:

-----why is that?

As a result, many dear saints are struggling to find a way of fellowshiping with other like-minded believers.

It is now fully 8 years since Carter Conlon, in his landmark sermon Run for Your Life, advised Christians to get out of churches, and meet in small groups in homes.

Did anyone hear him?

There are a few on SI who already, or, are now, doing this.

Amen.

You're right, that they don't have many complaints, because they are too busy obeying.

Having said that, if you, like myself, were watching five hundred saints being deceived by unbiblical doctrine, would your kind heart just leave them to rot, without challenging the lies? Would you just walk away, assuming they were all equally deceived?

And what if God told you to stay, and tend to the sheep, *would* you? Without advising them where to find safer pasture?

Just wondering...

Re: just one good thread..... - posted by MaryJane, on: 2010/2/7 2:24

Greetings Neil

I am sorry brother that some of the thread have taken away some of your joy. I know my own heart has been heavy due to some family matters. I think that many do come and ask questions or share burdens here because there are not many places for them to find fellowship with those who love the Lord deeply. I do know that there are times when I can be to focused on things and it is good to be reminded that in Him there is much joy and reason for rejoicing!

God bless
mj

Re: just one good thread..... - posted by Lysa (), on: 2010/2/7 7:02

Quote:
----- just one good thread.....

From your lips to God's ears

Re: - posted by KathleenP (), on: 2010/2/7 7:37

Brother Neil,

It is discouraging at times to see and hear the issues brought here, but I am blessed by those that stand behind the truth and declare it. Many sheep are confused and wondering and being deceived so they visit forums because they are invisible in these "congregations". I can't believe some of the things they are taught and accept and as Alive-to-God wrote, there are those here burdened for them.

My time alone in scripture and prayer is altogether separate and truly (I LOVE I John!) so blessed, but many don't even know the great importance of even searching the scripture, let alone prayer. Once they begin to, they also begin to see error where they attend but are quickly rebuked when questions are asked. I have both seen and heard this myself.

Please be encouraged and not grieved brother. There will always be those that will want to stir up strife here, but there is a purpose as well. Many churches in the very near future will fall face down and the Lord is removing his people right now.

May those that love Him receive good counsel here and may they learn to love the Word too!

Re: just one good thread..... - posted by hmmhmm (), on: 2010/2/7 7:51

sometimes i have felt what you share brother neil, what i usually do in such times is go down in archives find a thread that blessed me and most often it has three or four replies and then is forgotten about, but most often is those threads that has spoken a word from God and touched my soul, much more those forgotten threads than most of the ones with hundreds of replies.

I would encourage others to do the same if you find it to be any good and have time to dig a bit. There lies so much beneath the surface that is precious. May we lift forward that which brings life, although i agree on there is a need for "discernment" and coming against that which is false, but when that is all there is, then we have nothing.

Either we can join in on what is happening and most is occupied with for the time being, sometimes it has been calm vs arm, other times a new false prophet or doubtful ministry has become popular etc. So many jump head first into it. Those times we need those who not dive in and straighten out everything but can continue to share the uplifting, the up building, the encouraging. The fragrance you speak of.

May God help us to bring his aroma with us where ever we enter, in houses, homes, churches, forums.

God bless you

Christian

Re: just one good thread....., on: 2010/2/7 9:50

Here is what God told one prophet at the time of sending him.

Jer 1:10 See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

There is a lot of work to do before the planting and building starts.

Maybe, even, we have the idea that a field in which tares also have been sown by the enemy, will yield mainly wheat. But, perhaps there will be more tares than wheat, and this would explain the willingness of some people to sit in churches unchanged, under unchallenging ministry.

But what about the saints themselves? Those words were sent to *God's* people.

Brother Neil, if you feel called to upbuild the saints here, really, you should just go ahead, whatever the cost, according to the Lord's will for you.

:-D

Re: just one good thread..... - posted by Anastasis, on: 2010/2/7 9:59

Hello brother,

When I first came here and saw the threads, I was quite refreshed by it, probably because I've never heard preaching and writing like I've found here. Most everything has been soft tissue until now.

I grew up in a Charismatic environment (in some ways I'm still there), and many of the endorsed teachers in the movement, all it takes is a little Scripture searching to find that these movements are in error. Now there are right ways and wrong ways to address error, but the general atmosphere has been that you do not correct error; and if you do, you have a religious or rebellious spirit.

I know that it's possible to take discernment too far and use theological issues as unnecessary dividing points, but much of the church is living in the opposite extreme too. The Bible is thrown aside altogether for the eloquent speaker and the crusading miracle man, not even questioned. When the Lakeland Revival hit, few listened when the warnings were sounded. People sound those warnings though because they love God and love the people. The harsh thing is that many walks will be disabled because of lies such as these.

That being said, it is possible for us to lose the sense of joy that we are supposed to get from the Gospel. Matter of fact, a few weeks ago I came to that realization about myself. Where was the joy of my salvation? Where was my longing for satisfaction in the simple knowing of Christ? I had to stop and think, "Joy is a fruit of the Spirit, so why don't I have it?" It's sound advice for us to sometimes back away from the issues in the church and just be with God, thank Him for what He's done, and know that in all things, this present evil age has never slipped out of His control.

Thank you for this reminder Nathan. I do need a restoration of the simple joy of Christ in my life.

Re: Double honor?, on: 2010/2/7 10:45

Anastasis: Wow! What a blessing. Very profound and simple..There are two sides to the coin. Without the establishment of holy doctrine, and the living of it, the church would be overrun; her walls collapsed, and become Apostate shortly.

Another thing to consider; the church is CONSTANTLY under assault. Satan and his brothers do not sleep, but attack day and night to disarm the true church of her faith. This is done through the lie. It is the weapon of the Liar. Deception is a mixture, and Christian gospel doctrine is of the pure waters of Heaven, and the elders realize that poison can come in a small vial, and can pollute the entire spring. The lie must be confronted, and expelled.

Thereby the great apostle wrote: 1 TIMOTHY 5:17

17 "Let the elders who rule well be counted worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in the word and doctrine."

.....

It is a fight, and people can become weary in it. It doesn't mean, however, that because there is conflict and pressure, that it is necessarily wrong to engage. Sometimes it is a sacred duty.....and yes, one can lose sight of the Lord Himself in the conflict. "Sabbaticals"are a needed thing. I, personally, could use one now....thanks.

Re: Why We Fight - posted by Compton (), on: 2010/2/7 11:09

Niel,

Most of us are being brought to the end of ourselves, and are hanging by a thread psychologically. Disagreement threatens our fragility. This is (edit: at least one reason) why we fight.

Edit:

Blessings,

MC

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2010/2/7 11:15

Dear brethren,

I've spoken about this sort of thing on SermonIndex for some time now, this degeneration of the sweetness, meekness, humility and fragrance of Christ being replaced by an incessant judging, anathematizing, watchdogging and rebuking. It can only go on for so long before a necrosis in the local body begins to spread, like scurvy among vitamin C-deficient sailors.

Have you noticed any recent outbreaks?

Quote:

-----Most everything has been soft tissue until now.

When the joy is gone from one's walk, a stagnation sets in. Stagnate water is an ideal breeding ground for flies and mosquitos - or topics without any real substance other than skirting around and buzzing and stinging. But what we really need to be aware of is that some of the stings can carry a debilitating virus, which I've warned that people who continue to play in the murky, stagnate mudhole *beside* the flowing river may risk contracting. I've seen the effects of the malady: an overindulgence in fault-finding, a love of debate fueled by a noxious spiritual pride, an immunity to correction, a phobia of grace and mercy, and an underlying palor of personal discontent.

Like Naaman, these are called to dip themselves in a freshly flowing river to be cured of their disease. The river is a hum

ility which is gained by looking unto Jesus. When we look unto Jesus, we become like Him in all the divine aspects of His virtue: in His humility; in His patience; in His love; in His meekness. And when we are moved by divine zeal (yes, another virtue we gather) to take a whip to the moneychangers, we'll do it not without tears and authority. The problem nowadays is that moneychangers are being hunted down and whipped *outside* the temple, in the worldly marketplaces where they have a legal right to be. We have no jurisdiction there...and thus, no authority. That is why so many current event threads in this forum are not life-giving.

The instances where moneychangers are whipped *inside* the temple here are often just as spiritually necrotic, for the whippers have not been deputized by the Lord to undertake the task. Like Peter, they act out of their own zeal in severing ears, and like James and John in calling down fire. The litmus test in all of this is *do the exhortions, rebukings, castigations bring life to the body?* If not, they are merely spectacles and feats of the flesh and of an inflamed spiritual pride. We need to turn away from this behaviour if it is all we are accustomed to doing. If we have been thriving off debate and anathematizing other believers and ministries for years in our posts on SermonIndex, and all we have to show for it is how many enemies we've made and people we've rubbed the wrong way, then I believe we are in desperate need of a spiritual biopsy. And the biopsy should not be a self-diagnosis, but a *real biopsy* done by the Great Physician. He will give us an accurate reading, and if we allow Him, take His scalpel and remove the cancerous tumor and replace the death with living fruit!

Brother Paul

Re: just one good thread..... - posted by Zionshield (), on: 2010/2/7 12:51

The Lord bless you, brother. Thank you for your post. I've seen myself go there far too many times.

Re: just one good thread..... - posted by InTheLight (), on: 2010/2/7 16:02

Quote:

-----i wanted to write a post testifying to some of the fruit that i garnered from this Epistle

Please share the fruit...

In Christ,

Ron

Re: - posted by SHMILY, on: 2010/2/7 17:49

Thank you Paul for your words of wisdom.

Thank you Neil for the thread. I echo Ron's reply:

"Please share the fruit..."

REJOICE! =)

Mary

Re: just one good thread..... - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2010/2/7 17:59

Brother Neil,

I was good to hear from you - had been wondering what you were up to. Now we know. :-)

Life gets hard, the enemy is working overtime to deceive the elect, if it were possible, and it causes people a lot of distress. And this is not something new, either. May I suggest that after you finish reading 1 John go read 1 Corinthians, the entire book. Remember this was written to a church in Corinth, a church beset by many problems - actually, it sounds like a modern day church! Then read 2 Corinthians and then Ephesians. Seems to me this should give you some God-like p

erspective on life and some encouragement.

God bless,
ginnyrose

Re: WHY, on: 2010/2/7 18:10

1 Cor 3:3, "For ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?"

Re: brethern, on: 2010/2/8 10:37

i have so much to say, in response to your blessed reassurances, and i do feel pricked in my heart by my moaning and whining. i feel terrible, and beg forgiveness for such carping on my heart. i have so much to say but i HAVE to go to a doctors appt, i was just in the hospital for 3 days, but have a lot of testimony, positive testimony on my heart. mornings are always best for me to write, evenings not so much. i do so love everyone on this lil forum with the Love of Christ. May the love and the grace and the peace of the Lord be on you all. neil

Re: , on: 2010/2/8 11:32

"It is now fully 8 years since Carter Conlon, in his landmark sermon Run for Your Life, advised Christians to get out of churches, and meet in small groups in homes." ATG

A sermon that I know he didn't want to have to give. I've never seen a pastor grieve for God's sheep as Carter did in this sermon. I don't remember him mentioning house churches (nothing against those, It's been a little while since I've listened so I could be wrong on that), but just to warn those who were blindly following church leadership. Anyway, his sense of duty was powerfully evident.

Standing against such things isn't popular. Really it's a thankless calling. I'm all for edifying the church, an oppressed church will need this when battling that which is against it. But realize that the word 'edify' also means 'to make stronger'. If an inspector inspects a building to determine its strength and safety and finds a lot of termite damage which compromises the strength of the wood, then that needs to be brought to light. When the matter is addressed then the building is stronger than it was before. It might not be the news that anyone wants to hear but it's necessary. Look at the latest financial crisis. It came because warnings were not heeded. Those who testified to the pending danger were in the minority and were drowned out.

But I've been apart of some very refreshing threads here... people leaning on eachother and supporting a common struggle or need. I love those threads more than any other. When I know I'm not alone in a struggle then I feel a little relieved and able to pray with more vigor. I would like these kinds of threads more than any other... But I'm fooling myself if I think it's not going to be any different some other time.

Re: just one good thread, on: 2010/2/8 14:22

ccrider said

Quote:

-----I don't remember him mentioning house churches

Well, he didn't quite mention house churches, but from minute 67 (very near the end), he speaks of the need to drink water out of our own cisterns... our own well of living water (and more)

Get out of where you are. You've got to dig a well in your own house. Find some friends that are willing to walk with God. Start talking to them about the things of Jesus. Get together and begin to pray and God will meet you and give you living water.....

He continues, that the living waters God will pour, will be so great, they will be dispersed in the streets. In other words, as in 'Pentecost Went Outside', such a home meeting should not become introspectively limited, nor would be a way of es

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caping one's full responsibility to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ. He ends, talking about the cost, having already discussed the cost of *not* obeying the truth.

Re: , on: 2010/2/8 14:25

Ahhh I see what you mean now. Thanks.