

**Scriptures and Doctrine :: Manifesting a contrary and counter spirit****Manifesting a contrary and counter spirit - posted by sonoffthunder (), on: 2013/2/11 9:19**

People mistakenly think they're clean because they have no fleshly vices in their life. (Hmmm) yet Paul says in Corinthians you can't be HOLY until you also CLEANSE yourself of all FILTHINESS of the SPIRIT:

People (Christians) have an "I am clean" list they repeat to themselves.

"I don't do this ... I don't do that ... I'm not like ... other compromisers."

The Pharisee in the Temple said in essence "Thank God I'm not like other men - - - yea even like this profligate publican."

Then he went down his reassuring self-righteous catalogue of goodness.

Oh God - I don't look at women, I don't do drugs, I don't do alcohol, I don't do tobacco, I don't watch Harry Potter movies (smile) I don't buy lotto or instant scratch-offs (instant wins) smile***

Then came his "to-do list"

Oh God - I fast regularly, I never miss a prayer meeting, let alone church, when the offering plate comes round the guy on my left and the woman on my right can testify I always reach for my wallet and out comes the fifty-dollar note. (Of course the left hand never knows what the right hand is doing) **smile**

People mistakenly measure themselves - by themselves.

You say what's wrong with that?

The Pharisee in the temple remembers "I'm not like others"

People think they're clean ... based on ... not indulging the world or flesh.

All the while living in: contrary spirit, combative attitudes, variance, confrontationalism, argumentative spirit, contentiousness, debate, strife.

But I'm clean as I don't have any avarices of the flesh.

True: but what about the heart? Though life? Attitudes?

And the filth of the Spirit???

Mmm.

And not to mention some people ALWAYS agree to DISAGREE:

ONE OF THE WORKS OF THE FLESH IS - - - VARIANCE

It's basically being at odds with people. Always seeing two sides to EVERYTHING others say. Always being a nit-picker, a fault-finder, being awkward and difficult to get along with (being contrary)

Picking spiritual fights as if they were with people. Etc.

Re: Manifesting a contrary and counter spirit - posted by DEADn (), on: 2013/2/11 11:28

Isn't this where the 10 Commandments come into play? They remind of of sin? Even Ray Comfort uses the Commandments in his own witness because many people see sins as extra biblical commandments like smoking and drugs so when a person doesn't do what is considered bad they don't think they are bad.

The only Commandment that some don't say much about is the Sabbath. Seems like a sore topic with some people.

Re: - posted by sonofthunder (), on: 2013/2/12 7:44

God made the sabbath for man.

And NOt man ... for the sabbath.

Therefore understanding the INTENT of the sabbath is imperative.

For which of you owning a car and driving to church on sunday (opps)

Saturday sorry to 7th day there. But which of you owning a car and driving to church on saturday - - and on the way -- getting a flat tyre.

Will he not get out and change the tyre ...on the sabbath day ??

Now stretch forth thine hand ...and jesus healed him ...on the sabbath.

Yet 6 days thou shalt work and heal the sick...but Not on the sabbath.

Hmmm.

Re: - posted by ginnyrose (), on: 2013/3/4 6:43

I am glad for that one day of rest God set aside for man after he created the world. A time when one can kick back and rest. My body needs this time of refreshment.

Is it not odd that people who will fight this principle are among the first ones to promote vacations? Why not do it by degrees, like one day a week? This is one God ordained....it was not law, but included in the creation, like marriage.

Re: - posted by sonofthunder (), on: 2013/3/4 9:34

jesus was merely responding to critics who (wrongly) and hypocritically i might add ..accused him off breaking the sabbath.

And he gave an illustration similiar to my car driving one.

For which of you owning a horse or mule and it fall into the ditch on the sabbath day...will he not...do everything in his power to raise the horse out of the ditch? on the sabbath.

therefore it is lawful to heal on the sabbath day.

the sabbath was made for man

and not

man for the sabbath.

when he healed the withered hand

his accusers were livid (filthy with him)

understanding the principle of the sabbath is the key. I feel

not harsh letter of the law imposing rules.

sacrifice and burnt offerings God had no pleasure in

but a greater law?

to do justice and to shew mercy.

but go thou and learn what this meaneth:

Re: - posted by sermonindex (), on: 2013/3/4 9:42

Quote:

-----ONE OF THE WORKS OF THE FLESH IS - - - VARIANCE

Its basically being at odds with people. Always seeing two sides to EVERYTHING others say. Always being a nit-picker, a fault finder, being awkward and difficult to get along with (being contrary)

It might be wise to heed this counsel to ourselves so we can participate with others here in the body to encourage, strengthen and uplift others. Also an important way to stop variance is to be more agreeable and to agree with brothers and sisters that we differ with. How many posts do we do on SI that are meant for debate and how many are meant to simply encourage or serve others in the body. Are we teachable and desire to learn or are we always assuming the role of teacher to others here. These are good questions to ask ourselves. If we are talking in short preaching statements to others are we really being of the mind of Christ to serve others and be humble to accept that we do not know all things.

May we simply be servants (1 cor 3:5) and serve one another in love. Brethren are on the site from all different denominational backgrounds but we can agree in Jesus Christ and seek the unity of the faith in truth.

The community Guidelines we pray serves as a unifying tool for our attitudes towards each other: http://www.sermonindex.net/modules/newbb/viewtopic.php?topic_id=44556&forum=13

Re: Manifesting a contrary and counter spirit - posted by Sree (), on: 2013/3/4 11:06

The problem with Pharisees as Jesus rightly pointed out is that they were happy with external holiness. They had a certain standard of living and they were happy with it. Also in the pharisees and republican example that is noted here, the Pharisee compared himself with the republican. That is the greatest mistake he has done. In New Covenant life we are not here to compare ourselves with any other person. Our only focus should be with Jesus. I need to compare my standards with him alone. Have I attained Christlikeness? If the answer is no then any other standard that I have attained is of no value.

Judgment begins from the household of God. But how do I judge myself? By looking into Jesus who is author and perfecter of my faith and not looking into other brothers.

The fundamental work of the Holy Spirit is to bring conviction into us about our sins. But if we are soulless Christians then we cannot hear this conviction. Instead we will have a picture of Christ in our life and we will live a standard according to that picture. It is a danger of being soulless Christians because we hamper the work of God's spirit in our life.

Re: Manifesting a contrary and counter spirit - posted by sonofthunder (), on: 2013/3/6 6:55

They say today ...the devil is in ...the detail.

Correction.

God is in the detail.

How few stop to look at (all) of the works of the (Flesh)

listed in Gslations five.

and it is there we find: variance.

as the two previous posters alluded.

we look at ourselves and we think ... were all fine.

but when we look into the mirror of gods word (its woe is me)

once we start comparing our holiness to others ..and say i dont watch t.v

or look at pornography or read harry potter, or indulge in jesting

Therefore i must be holy ...and right with God.

My God though (arent we just as the pharisee in the temple)???

Interestingly the pharisse's also despised and looked down on sinners.

But Jesus however came and died to save sinners.

thats one of the biggest deceptions around (im holy based on) everything what i don't do in the world (what about the inner part) though?

hmmm.

Re: - posted by PaulWest (), on: 2013/3/6 8:36

Quote:
-----It might be wise to heed this counsel to ourselves so we can participate with others here in the body to encourage, strengthen and uplift others. Also an important way to stop variance is to be more agreeable and to agree with brothers and sisters that we differ with.

I have made it a practice to avoid variances over the non-essentials of Christianity, and this has reserved strength in my inner man to fight Satan - power which would not had been there had it been used to battle the trivialities and opinions of flesh and blood.

Christians will always be divided on the non-essentials; some are even divided on what constitutes an essential from a non-essential. Then there are those who always feel a need to correct and shine their flashlight in the faces of others. Have you ever noticed that this is what children do? A mature man or woman uses their lamp for the safety of themselves and others and to help with navigation, but a child will use a flashlight frivolously. The Lord has given us all a measure of light. How we use the light we presently have will be the determining measure on how much more He allows us to acquire.

A person who is using their light to judge themselves in the mirror of God's Word will make no effort to detect the stains on the faces of others. A wise person avoids all conversations where variance is at work. If you are walking in the Holy S

pirit, He will indicate when you are entering into this territory. You then have the choice to listen to His instruction and vacate the premises, or to keep on trying to convince everyone you are right and they are wrong.

If you chose the latter, you automatically lose everything even if you win the argument. Personally, I would rather concede a discussion with man than lose the opportunity to gain more light with God. It can be very tempting to take religious hypocrites to task, or to defend oneself when our opinions are challenged, but we must refrain from doing so if we ourselves would grow in grace and in the knowledge of the Lord.

Re: variance with our brothers - posted by wombat1 (), on: 2013/3/9 0:58

Re: - posted by wombat1 (), on: 2013/3/9 1:04

Hi guys I agree arguing over rapture is a waste of breath if there is not mutual respect and humility and love. On the other hand if someone is preaching salvation that opposes the inclusion of repentance which is a key element in one of the largest christian moves in the world then I see my function, atleast in part is too sound that alarm as loud and clear as my lungs will allow. Regards Oskar.

Re: - posted by wombat1 (), on: 2013/3/9 2:15

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Re: - posted by sonofthunder (), on: 2013/3/9 8:56

We seem to have gone from variance to talking about the rapture (rapture) In one foul swoop! hmmm im bemused by that: really.

But anyway paul had a thorn in the flesh (a messenger of satan)

Sent to buffet him. Ever known someone who (just about every time you post) here they come ...here comes that "one person" "that one individual" as it were with a Contrary view and opinion to yours. (and it justified in their minds, by saying i just happen to see things differently to you - thats all) well that would be fine (Only problem is they pretty much have a differing opinion to yours (almost all the time)

In fact seldom if ever do thorns agree with you or your words.

Almost every time you write something here comes that one person to pick-apart what you've said. To nit pick and counter your views: yep.

Almost (not all) but almost everytime you post here comes your thorn in the side who diminishes what you say and/or minimizes what you said:
(sad part is ...many times ...they dont even know ...there doing it)

They rarely agree or see things - the way you do. Its always this constant niggle, this picking apart, a variance of opinion

n different to yours, With a thorn you expect to be countered and have your words challenged (you know you will be set at naught) Even if you think youve nailed it ..that is written *pretty much* a perfect post conforming to the scriptures, rightly dividing up the word of God.

(but that being said even if it were true) (your thorn) might simply be waiting for you to slip up (next time). So youd better watch it (they havent gone anywhere) (and they havent gone away)There silence for now doesnt mean they have left you alone, repented or finally, finally agreed with something you said. (mission impossible i know)

And when you have "a thorn" even when it appears they agree with you (dont be tricked) they actually dont! They will de-rail the thread or impact the post so as to draw attention away from your thoughts to there words.

And like i said even when you think youve crossed all the T's and dotted all the "I" s correctly (and surely they wont have anything to say this time) Errr wrong again brother. The post was too long, too funny, too short, Had way too many spelling errors, or this "this topic has already been talked about numerous before (ad - infinitum) Sssshhheessshhh.

Ever feel like your being provoked? by your THORN in the side?

Not only is your thorn always there to provoke and throw a wet blanket over your posts (but generally) they get away with flying under the radar too.

meaning to say (generally speaking its usually only "you" and "them") that know what's going on with the on-going manifested contrary spirit to yours. (in fact very few others pick up on it - and hence they fly under the radar).

Invisible as it were.

Sometimes your thorn ...will wait...till traffic ...has died down in the threadbefore they hit you.. with there (usual) opposition

mmm. how sneaky..

Funny thing is ...such individuals always believe christ SPEAKS through them powerfully. (oh yes)

But just not you. Mmm

There God's anointed (but your not) apparently.

Such individuals are convinced. ..."your off" and there "the true"

There true - but of course- your the false one.

notice there never wrong ...about being right ...about you.

Mmm. Funny that.

Did you catch that?

There never wrong, about being right, about your being "wrong"

paul had a thorn in the flesh an adversary (that provoked him) well tried to anyhow! much like hannah in samuels - she had an adversary that provoked her sore. IOW tried to get under her skin. Hannah's adversary waited every year for her ...for to make FRET: and this did she year in and year out.

just occasionally thorns will will have a slight twinge of conscience (that theyve been on your back...pestering ...following you around) but when they reply to something that brought a brief moment of crisis of conscience (its not an apology forthcoming - they reply to justify themselves) believing theyve done NOTHING uncomely:

The thing about thorns is ...There Always little niggly comments thrown your way. Yea Comments loaded to make a pier

cing between that fiith and sixth rib. (of yours) Will they succeed in there guile and variance?

Will you let them have this CONTROL over your life?

Or as paul did ...just simply Die out to it!?

You say no way. Im going to have words with them, or they will continue to get away with it. Perhaps you should maybe. But remember sometimes never answering or responding is (the best defence of attack)