

"Let us hold fast the profession of our faith without wavering; (for He is faithful that promised;) And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the Day approaching." Hebrews 10:23-25 KJV



What kind of selfish person would ignore a weeping child or a wounded soldier? Every saint is a child of the KING and a warrior against evil. Believers are often severely wounded or bereaved as they journey through life's wilderness. The Assembly, The Church of Jesus Christ, provides a safe haven and oasis where we can bind up the wounded and console the bereaved. It is a time of rest and feasting for the weary, dusty, pilgrim. It is a time of relaxation from the battle. Satan has convinced many that the Assembly is a court of judgment to be avoided when in reality it should be the resort of the righteous. It is where we should be able to worship and praise our Lord with complete freedom. Why is it that believers are more critical of the righteous than they are of the wicked? It is a puzzling paradox that the forgiven condemn the pardoned. We are to "provoke unto love and to good works," not browbeat each other into righteous conformity. A compliment motivates far more efficiently than criticism. Don't look to correct, but compliment and encourage. If a person is truly a child of God, He will deal with their sin. "For whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth, and scourgeth every son (child) whom He receiveth. But if ye be without chastisement, whereof ALL (believers) are partakers, then are ye bastards, and not sons." Let God's Word correct and mold; He does a perfect job of it. "Being confident of this very thing, that He which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the Day of Jesus Christ." God is the one who determined that we be "conformed to the image of His Son." Our job is not to condemn or mold other believers. "Love one another; speaking the Truth in Love, [that we] may grow up into Him in all things, which is the Head, even Christ. Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice. Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves." We are to be teachers, not slave masters. A good teacher knows that the hardest part of teaching is instilling a desire to learn. A motivated student will learn. What better motivation could there be than a living example of the benefits? The closer we draw to God and the better we follow His instructions, the greater our ability to guide and influence. John the Apostle wrote, "I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in Truth." A teacher's greatest joy is the prosperity of their students. Our Father's greatest joy is the prosperity of His children. We should not be envious of a saint's prosperity, but we should rejoice with them knowing that Father will also "supply all your need according to His riches in Glory by Christ Jesus." God knows what you need before you need it.

Forsaking not the feeble hands,
The saint should strengthen righteous bands,
Despairing words of doubt and doom,
In faithful speech should have no room. ~CGP

There is enough criticism of the faithful from the wicked without the saints abusing the saints.

"And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you." Ephesians 4:32 KJV