

“Wherefore lay apart all filthiness and superfluity of naughtiness, and receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls.” James 1:21 KJV



SUPERFLUITY: greater quantity than is wanted; rendered unnecessary by its abundance. NAUGHTINESS: badness; wickedness; evil principle or purpose. (Webster’s 1828) *“Superfluity of naughtiness”* is abundant evil. It subtly creeps upon us unawares, and good intentions become flirtation with evil. Unless immediately put away, it will lead to lust, sin, and death. For example: We allow ourselves the leeway of light banter with another, yielding to impulsive retort, thereby allowing Satan’s whispers to flow freely out of our mouth. Friends may not indicate they’ve been offended, but we all know so-called “kidding around” can be hurtful. Satan knows how to twist a phrase and is ever ready to supply loose lips with an abundance of *“naughtiness.”* The same applies to daily decisions we make on the fly, allowing habit and desire to dictate our decisions without pausing to consider our obedience to Truth. It could be something as simple as an unplanned trip to market, impulse buying, or “running up to the store” for a forgotten item, rendering ourselves poor stewards of time and finances. We are so used to “running to the store” we little consider the wear and tear on our car and the extra fuel needed to run such errands caused by poor planning. “I just don’t have enough time!” is a well-worn excuse for poor stewardship! It falls into the category of *“superfluity of naughtiness.”* We complain that we don’t have enough to make ends meet, but leave lights on, water running, and make unnecessary trips without a thought to the *“naughtiness”* of such neglect. If you have a lack of ability or knowledge to deal with the load you are required to carry, ponder this from God’s Word: *“Cast thy burden upon the LORD, and He shall sustain thee: Come unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which today is, and tomorrow is cast into the oven, shall he not much more clothe you, O ye of little faith? Therefore take no thought, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ Or, ‘What shall we drink?’ Or, ‘Wherewithal shall we be clothed?’ But seek ye first the Kingdom of God, and His righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you. Take therefore no thought for the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof.”*

Naughtiness slithers into life,
Disguised as hurry, fun, and strife,
Before we know, we’ve done a slight,
And ceased from walking in the Light! ~CGP

Charles Spurgeon wrote: “Want of confidence in God leads us to wander far from Him; but if through simple faith in His promise, we cast each burden as it comes upon Him, and are *“careful for nothing”* because He undertakes to care for us, it will keep us close to Him, and strengthen us against much temptation.” We say we trust God, but do we really? The next time you “get to the end of your rope,” ask yourself, “Why am I here and how did I get here?”

“He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty. I will say of the LORD, ‘He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in Him will I trust.’” Psalms 91:1-2 KJV