

Romans # 179

**“Self-gratification is Slavery”**

*Romans 13:11; John 8:42-47; Ephesians 2:1-7; Ephesians 5:8-17*

**When Christians get away from consistent Bible study and application, they become security conscious, which is a great evil.**

Negative vulnerability is found in the believer who takes in the Word until he reaches maturity but then reacts with boredom, discouragement, frustration, self-pity or other reactor factors in his soul, which becomes an obsession.

*Negative emotionalism characterizes the believer who rejects the plan of God in revolting, by using his emotion as the basis for everything in life, so he becomes blind in his soul because he feels his way through life.*

The emotionally driven believer becomes a slave to his health, to his relationships with people and everything else that has to do with stimulation or lack of stimulation.

Fools want security rather than freedom so they prefer slavery.

**There are 3 phases to the plan of God; Phase 1 is justification salvation, when Jesus Christ bore our sins in His own body on the cross; when He became our substitute, taking our place, completely satisfying God the Father, providing the reconciliation of man to God.**

Our objective in this world is to follow the course of progress called spiritual growth.

*But if we neglect biblical truth, then we follow a course of rebellion.*

A person's love for another person is no stronger than the character of the person who initiates the love.

The character of Jesus Christ is perfect and impeccable, so Jesus has only perfect love and when He loves someone, that love is perfect because He who declares it is perfect.

**We are Church Age believers, members of the royal family of God through the baptism by the Holy Spirit, so we should bear the family resemblance of nobility by following God's example as dearly loved children.**

In every dispensation, the believer is regenerated by the Holy Spirit at the moment he believes in Christ but in the Church Age, the Holy Spirit also baptizes all believers into the body of Christ, making each of us royalty forever.

*And when the body of Christ is completed on earth, the Church Age ends with the Rapture or resurrection of the Church when the body of Christ becomes the bride of Christ.*

The sign of our royalty is the unprecedented, universal indwelling of God the Holy Spirit.

**Processed biblical truth gives us an alertness in life, so we must understand that we only have a limited amount of time in this life.**