

BITS & PIECES

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

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SELF WILLED CHURCH MEMBERS

Vance Havner said, "A.J. Gordon once classified some obstreperous church members as 'figureheads, soreheads, and deadheads.' He might have added 'hotheads,' of which there is always an abundance." All of these are evidences of SELF! We would all do well to remember that some day we are going to give an account of ourselves to the Head of the Church. There is no place in the Church of God for self will. It ought to always be "**Not my will but Thine be done.**" There's only one way to have that: "**I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life that I now live in the flesh, I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.**" ~Galatians 2:20.

THINK BEFORE YOU SPEAK (OR WRITE)

The following headlines appeared in various newspapers:

Safety experts say school bus passengers should be belted. (probably some should be)
Something went wrong in jet crash experts say. (I wonder how they figured that out)
Farmer Bill dies in the house. (Lot's of things die in the house - and in the senate too)
Reagan wins on budget, but more lies ahead. (That sounds like politics as usual)
If strike isn't settled quickly, it may last awhile. (That seems like a safe prediction)

A LESSON FEW HAVE LEARNED

Years ago, a famous Harvard professor, Charles T. Copeland, was asked by a student, "Is there anything I can do to learn the art of conversation?" Professor Copeland replied, "Yes, there is and if you listen, I will tell you." For several moments there was silence. Then, the student said, "I'm listening, professor." "You see," said Copeland, "You are learning already." The Bible says, "**Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath.**" ~James 1:19. Here is something else to think about on this subject: when you are talking, you are not learning anything. Nothing is used more by mistake than the tongue. "**In the multitude of words there wanteth not sin: but he that refraineth his lips is wise.**" ~Proverbs 10:19.

SENTIMENTAL LOVE

A certain young man was in the habit of going to his mother and throwing his arms around her neck and saying, "Mother, I love you so much, I could die for you." One day as he did that, the dear mother replied, "Son, I don't want you to die for me, I just want you to come in a little earlier at night." It is easy to mouth the words, "I love Jesus," or to sing, "O How I Love Jesus." But do our actions prove it? Many people claim to love Jesus but you wouldn't know it by their indifference and disobedience to His Word. Did He not say, "**If ye love me, keep my commandments.**" ~John 14:15. Others may not be able to tell the difference between lip service and true love of Christ - but He can! He said, "**This people honoreth me with their lips, but their heart is far from me.**" ~Mark 7:6.