

BITS & PIECES

CORNERSTONE BAPTIST CHURCH

ROLLAND C. STARR, PASTOR

WWW.CORNERSTONEBAPTISTMETROBOSTON.ORG

MARCH 2010

CONSTRUCTIVE CRITICISM

A preacher remarked about a local newspaper that had a small boxed off section on one of its pages concerning some sarcastic comments by the irritated editor. They read: "If you find errors in this publication, please consider that they are there for a purpose. We publish something for everyone, and some people are always looking for mistakes." There is such a thing as constructive criticism - let's try that! Instead of criticizing and pulling down others, let us do what we can to encourage and uplift. Sad to say there is too much destructive criticism, of which many are guilty. **"Do all things without murmuring and disputings."**

THREE CROSSES!

"And when they were come to...Calvary, there they crucified Him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand and the other on the left." ~*Luke 23:33*. There were three crosses on Calvary. On the one was a man dying IN SIN -- he did not receive Christ as Savior. There was another man dying TO SIN -- he trusted Christ in his last hours. Then, there was Jesus in the middle, dying FOR SIN. **"For He hath made him to be sin for us, that we might be made the righteousness of God in Him."** ~*II Corinthians 5:21*. A certain man was asked to receive Christ but he put it off saying, "Don't bother me now. There is always the eleventh hour. Remember the dying thief." He was shocked when his friend said, "Which one? Remember, there were two of them." What about you? Are you procrastinating about being saved?

TRUE CONSECRATION

A Swede was about to start out as a missionary to India when some of his friends tried to dissuade him from going to such a hard place. They said, "It is so hot there you can't survive. Why, sometimes it is 120 degrees in the shade." "Vell," said the man of faith, in utter contempt, "Ve don't have to stay in the shade, do ve?" There have always been some who would like to serve God - as long as it doesn't cost too much! There are plenty of people who don't mind work, as long as it isn't hard work. There may be some "easy" places to serve God, but I don't believe I have seen any. **"Thou therefore endure hardness as a good soldier of Jesus Christ."** ~*II Timothy 2:3*.

WHAT WE NEED

Someone wrote the following 25 to 30 years ago: "If Evangelical Christianity is to stay alive, she must repudiate place-seekers who dare not to speak out against wrong. She must produce aggressive leaders who fear only sin, obey only God, expose every form of error, and outrageously stand for truth under all circumstances. Men in shops, factories, offices, must be touched by a divine fire that will change dawdlers into dynamic witnesses, and from social butterflies, will make angels of mercy who will carry the Good News to the neglected, the outcasts, and the unfortunate." It is obvious that Evangelicalism has miserably failed. And I say it with sadness, Fundamentalism is not very far behind them.