

Is Your Word Good?

by Linville Dunaway, Corinth Christian Church

Most people value their word and intend to keep their promises which they have made. If a person can't be trusted; then he is not considered to be worth much as a man, or woman. How many times have we seen a person make a confession that Jesus is Lord and that they will live for him, and be baptized; then after a while, they drift away and seem to forget about serving him. Why did this happen? Did they think that doing so would cause all their troubles to go away and that everything would be easy for them? If so, they didn't know much about life, or the word of God.

When we come to the Lord we shouldn't expect all things to go easy for us. The Lord didn't promise that that would happen in this life. If they persecuted Jesus, why would a rational person think that he would be exempt from any trouble? We trust the Lord to forgive us of our sins and that we have help in this life. Then, when we die we

believe his word that we will live trouble free in heaven for ever. In this life we promise to live according to his word and commandments instead of living according to the desires of our flesh. No one made us get up in front of a congregation and make such a vow, we did it on our own. Keep that promise that you make to the Lord, in spite of the problems that come along in life. **Psalms 22:25.** "My praise shall be of thee in the great congregation: I will pay my vows before them that fear him."

Just like this and other scriptures say, in the great congregation, or in the presence of the brethren, not living apart from God's people. We are to worship God in the life we live and that in a public way. If we have to tell people that we believe, then we don't have much to show for our lives.

A lot of folks say that they are Christians but don't go to church and don't support the Lord's house, or his work. I visited a lot of homes some years ago where many people told me that they were members at the church where I preached. In

the years that I was there none of them ever came to church. If they had, the church would have been full. These people thought that they were doing alright, living for themselves, doing what they wanted to do, forgetting any vow that they had made to God. **Ecclesiastes 5:4,** "When thou vowest a vow unto God, defer not to pay it; for he hath no pleasure in fools: pay that which thou hast vowed. ⁵ Better is it that thou shouldest not vow, than that thou shouldest vow and not pay. ⁶ Suffer not thy mouth to cause thy flesh to sin; neither say thou before the angel, that it was an error: wherefore should God be angry at thy voice, and destroy the work of thine hands?"

I know that this is from the Old Testament but that don't change the fact that God still doesn't like liars, and that is what a person is when they don't keep their word. Think of it this way, if a person lies to God and refuses to honor his promise, do you really think that that person would have any problem lying to you? I sure don't. We need to keep our word to everybody, but especially to God.

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This is a dramatized version of facts taken from the Book of Joshua, intending to show some of the customs of these ancient and traditional times

OTHNIEL'S TRIUMPH
HAVING REACHED THE TOP OF THE WALLS, OTHNIEL'S MEN ARE BESET UPON BY THE FERCE GIANT DEFENDERS...

WE CANNOT LAST LONG - IF OTHNIEL HAS A PLAN, PRAY GOD HE PUTS IT TO USE!

DEATH TO THE ISRAELITES!

AND, UPON THE HEIGHTS OVERLOOKING THE CITY, THE MEN OTHNIEL PLACED THERE EAGERLY AWAIT HIS SIGNAL!

THE BATTLE IS JOINED - BUT WHERE IS OTHNIEL'S SIGNAL?!

NOW, YE MEN OF JUDAH, SEE MY SIGNAL!

AT OTHNIEL'S SIGNAL, THE BEARERS OF THE HIGHLY POLISHED BRAZEN SHIELDS SPRING INTO ACTION!

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CONFUSION!

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