

## **MARCH 27 , 2022 – LOVE ONE ANOTHER SERIES**

### **BEAR ONE ANOTHERS BURDENS**

#### **BEAR WITH ONE ANOTHER**

**REVIEW.** The Lesson began with a reminder that the discourse in the Upper Room, as recorded in John 13 – 17, is the basis for our study of the “one anothers” in the New Testament Scriptures. It revolves around the two factors of Jesus command to love one another and his prayer for unity among his followers

**LAST WEEK.** Our first example was that of not judging one another and the reality that to judge another is to invite the same basis for God to judge us. But rather to build up one another. Such requires a deliberate, positive action towards another.

#### **THIS WEEK -- BEGINS WITH BEAR ONE ANOTHERS BURDENS**

This week we discuss two additional passages declaring the need to devote ourselves to one another. Again, we rely upon the Apostle Paul for these two elements.

**GALATIANS 6:2** “Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.”

The Apostle is writing to the churches in Galatia in about AD 49. After his earlier time of ministry there, two different “gospels” had come into the churches. While Gentiles were now trust the Good News of Jesus Christ, Jews who were converted were pressing the need to add circumcision and Jewish rites to the salvation message. Further, they were questioning Paul’s authority which is not too surprising in view of his abbreviated time in actual ministry, perhaps 2 or 3 years.

#### **BASIC TRUTHS**

1. Salvation is based on faith alone and no other
2. False doctrines will creep in that seek to add or subtract from the truth

RON taught us the context of the statement by Paul to bear one another’s burdens helping us to understand why Paul gives this instruction. It is our responsibility to help others who may be caught in sin and to help restore them. Using a backpack filled with a 50-pound weight, he demonstrated the need for help in carrying the pack, illustrative of the need to bear the burdens of another. He encouraged us to take time to seek out someone in need and to make connections and establish relationships.

**COLOSSIANS 3:13** “bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.”

BUD described the context of this statement in Colossians. The Apostle Paul, now in prison in Rome in about AD 60, writes to the church at Corinth to, once again, caution regarding false teachings. He began his letter with an amazing discourse regarding the supremacy of Christ to establish the basis for true teachings.

#### **BASIC TRUTHS**

- 1. SUPREMACY OF CHRIST**
- 2. FALSE TEACHINGS WERE DIVISIVE**
- 3. PAUL MOVES TO CONDUCT – REMOVE BAD, PUT ON GOOD**

RON, in thinking about bearing with one another, asked the question as to whom we are paying attention. Do we delight in one another as God delights in us? Do we really CONNECT with others with the heart of God? Do we have mercy on others? It is about attitude. To bear the burdens of another means to treat others as Christ treats us.

RON and BUD then discussed the true meaning of Jesus' prayer, in John 17, asking the father four times to bring unity to his followers. As a result, a group of believers, such as the members of Bethany Baptist Church, are provided with full unity by the father. We do not work to gain unity, such as through our positive responses to the one another, but unity is automatically there. Failure to love one another can only work to breach that unity, not make it happen. Hence the command to love one another. Wormwood is always at work to cause such disunity and disrupt the unity of the body of believers. Ron went on to remind us of the importance of connecting with one another and the basis for bearing one another's burdens.

#### **HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE?**

One thing this week -- reach out to someone and connect

#### **NEXT WEEK -- SPEAK THE TRUTH IN LOVE**

ROMANS 15:14

EPHESIANS 4:25 (15)

COLOSSIANS 3:9

RON – WHAT DO YOU SEE HERE?

#### **CONCLUSION**

#### **HOW THEN SHALL WE LIVE?**

- 1. UNDERSTAND WHO WE ARE IN CHRIST**
- 2. EMPATHIZE WITH OTHERS**
- 3. REASON WITH OTHERS OF DIFFERENT CONCLUSIONS**
- 4. BEWARE OF FALSE TEACHINGS COMING INTO THE CHURCH**
- 5. TEST NEW IDEAS THAT COME FROM BIBLE TEACHERS**

#### **NEXT WEEK -- SPEAK THE TRUTH TO ONE ANOTHER IN LOVE**