

THE JOY OF THE LORD IS OUR STRENGTH, Part 3 Opposition

INTRODUCTION

- When you move out in faith, you should expect _____ opposition.

EXTERNAL OPPOSITION

- R_____ replaces reason. It is the pr_____ weapon of those who oppose the work of God. But we are to be watchful of our speech (Colossians 4:5-6; Ephesians 4:29)
- Rage is often called _____ rage because reasoning is left behind. There is often little reasoning with such people because they fight against what is ob_____ (Romans 1:19-25)
- How did they mock Jesus? _____
- God used what the w_____ thought to be utter f_____ishness to save the world. (1 Co 1:27-28)

RESPONDING TO EXTERNAL OPPOSITION

- Notice what Nehemiah did NOT do: He did not _____ the _____
- When people ridicule Christians, it is ultimately towards _____. Mat 5:11-12
- Nehemiah p_____ As Christians, we are to love our enemies. "Nevertheless, God's people can ask him to judge inj_____ and to th_____ the plans of those who would hinder God's work" M. Breneman
- They were pru_____. Remember, faith is neither na_____ or in despair.
- S_____d_____ involves preserving one's own health and life when it is threatened by the actions of others. Self-defense is _____ about taking vengeance.

RESPONDING TO INTERNAL OPPOSITION

- Dis_____ and f_____ are often the greatest opposition.
- When God calls you in faith to a task, that task is often l_____ than you can handle by yourself. It drives you to your _____. Proverbs 3:5-6
- Some tasks take a long, long time. You have to have the _____-term view of God in mind. Not your view, but G_____ view. Isaiah 55:8-11
- Our God is an awe_____ God. Therefore, you need _____ be afraid. Genesis 15:1; Isaiah 40:9, 43:1
- Fear not! Look to the C_____ of Christ; Look to the empty t_____; Look to His ascen_____; Trust in His prom_____ that we will be with him.
- Know that you are not al_____!

HEAR & APPLY THE WORD

When you move out in faith, you should expect opposition from without.

- Come to the Lord in prayer • Be prudent.

Expect times of discouragement and fear.

- Trust in the Lord
- Fix your eyes upon Jesus.
- Know that you are not alone



How to Prepare for The Lord's Supper

In order that you may receive this Holy Sacrament in a worthy manner you should carefully consider what you must now believe and do.

From the words of Christ: "This is My body, which is given for you; This is My blood, which is shed for you for the remission of sins;" you should believe that Jesus Christ is present with His body and blood, as the words declare. From Christ's words, "For the remission of sins," you should also believe that Jesus gives to you His body and blood to strengthen your assurance that your sins are forgiven. And, finally, you should do as Christ commands you when He says: "Take, eat; Drink of it, all of you; This do in remembrance of me."

If you believe these words of Christ, and do as He has commanded, then you have properly examined yourselves and may eat Christ's body and drink His blood in a worthy manner. You should, also, unite in giving thanks to Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for so great a gift, and should love one another with a pure heart, and thus, with the whole Christian Church, have comfort and joy in Christ our Lord. To this end may God the Father give you His

Sermon Notes

Scripture Readings
&
Pew Bible page numbers

Nehemiah 4:1-23
p. 470

Matthew 5:11-16
p. 962

The Lord's Supper

We believe that the Lord's Supper is more than a remembrance. We believe that the in Lord's Supper Christ Jesus is truly present in body and blood, given in bread and wine for us to eat and drink. We also believe it is a means by which we receive true forgiveness of sin.

The Lord's supper is for those who baptized and confess Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Learn more on how to prepare for
The Lord's Supper