



# Northside Proclaimer

*Proclaiming The Word Of The Lord*

1 Thessalonians 1:8

Northside church of Christ Welcomes You!

## “THE LORD'S USE OF SCRIPTURE”

June 29, 2014

*Bryan Garlock*

“As a result of the ignorance of Scripture, we have numberless ranters in our pulpits who do not deserve to be called preachers of the Word of God, as they seldom quote Scripture” (Bernard Lamy, 1699). Though this is directed towards those who preach, the same is true for those who profess to be Christians. As a result of the ignorance of scripture, we have numberless Christians who cannot quote scripture, not even one. The point is not because they haven't memorized scripture, but because they haven't internalized scripture through diligent reading and studying. This creates countless limitations placed on these Christians. Let's observe just two.

***It means we could lose the battle of temptation.*** In Matthew 4.1-11, we read the account of the temptations of Jesus. Matthew records that Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights and though He was hungry, He did not give into temptation by the lust of the flesh (4.3-4). Nor did He by the lust of the eyes (5-7) or by the pride of life (8-10; cf. 1 John 2.15-16). Jesus fought each temptation head on without giving Satan any wriggle room. The Hebrew writer affirmed that Christ “was in all points tempted as we are, yet without sin” (4.14-16). How did Jesus overcome Satan? It was scripture that helped Him defeat and resist the Devil. Christ knew the Old Testament and was able to quote scripture when tempted by Satan (Deuteronomy 8.3; 6.16, 13). If we fail to internalize the teachings of Scripture, how can we resist the evil one? Without God's Word and prayer we cannot stand firm and resist the Devil and his fiery darts (James 4.7; 1 Peter 5.8-9). We can and will lose the battle of temptation.

***It means we could miss teaching opportunities causing error to prevail.*** Jude exhorts us “to contend earnestly for the faith” (1.3). Peter instructs us to have an answer for our hope (1 Peter 3.15). Finally, Paul commands us to, “be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does *Continued on back...*

Northside  
*church Of Christ*

25 Greenfield Pike  
Hillsboro, OH 45133

churchofchristatnorthside.com

Visit Us On Facebook!  
Facebook.com/northsidehillsboro

Bryan Garlock  
Office: 937.393.3634  
Cell: 478.256.0325  
preacher@churchofchristatnorthside.com

“Blessed are  
those who keep  
his testimonies,  
who seek him  
with their whole  
heart.”

*Psalm 119.2*



not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (2 Tim. 2.15). There are teaching opportunities missed due to the lack of scriptural knowledge. Some can’t contend for the faith because they don’t know what their faith is. Others can’t give an answer for their hope because they don’t study to show “thysself approved.” How do we suppose Jesus would have taught people if He wasn’t ready to contend, or better yet, had no answers for His hope? Jesus always resorted to scripture! Jesus was ready, willing, and equipped with the “sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Eph. 6.10-20, note 17).

We see Jesus in action as the Sadducees questioned Him on the resurrection (Matt. 22.23). He charged them with “not knowing the scriptures, nor the power of God” (22.29). He then smashes their belief by quoting scripture! “Have you not read...?” Jesus says as he quotes Exodus 3.6 (32). Notice what happens next, “and when the multitudes heard this, they were astonished at His teaching” (33). How many soul saving opportunities have been lost because we have not “astonished” those with teaching? How many souls have been condemned for error because we can’t contend for the faith? When scripture is not second nature, we cannot help others see their error, we cannot teach them the truth and we cannot contend for our faith; instead teaching opportunities are missed and error prevails.

Could Jesus have fought temptations without knowing the scriptures? Would He have missed teaching opportunities without knowing the scriptures? Could He have contended for the faith against the rising false doctrine without the knowledge of the scriptures? Brethren, we must learn to internalize the scriptures through much study so we can rightly divide, quote and fight the good fight of faith with scripture! **BG**

## **Our Purpose:**

It is our purpose to be the church of Christ at Hillsboro, OH (Matt. 16.18; Rom. 16.16; Eph.1.22; Acts 20.38).

It is our purpose to worship God in spirit and in truth, and continue steadfastly in it (John 4.24; Acts 2.42).

It is our purpose to speak the oracles of God, and hold fast the pattern of sound words (1 Peter 4.11; 2 Tim. 1.13).

It is our purpose to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ, and be a shining light in this community (Matt. 28.19-20; 2 Tim. 2.2; Phil. 2.15; Matt. 5.16).

It is our purpose to glorify God (Rom. 15.6; 1 Cor. 6.20; Eph. 3.21).