

THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

April 1

2018

Revilers Will Not Inherit The Kingdom Of God

In 1 Corinthians 6:9-10, we learn that revilers will be among those who will not inherit the kingdom of God. However, there are many who do not even know what a reviler is. So, with that thought in mind, let's first answer the question of what is a reviler?

When defined, the word revile means "to speak abusively towards and commonly indicates a profane manner of speech toward another individual." Ladies and gentleman, to be simply put a reviler is one who verbally attacks another with abusive, insulting language. You see, revilers are those who speak ill towards others, they have a spirit of dissension, and they are commonly recognized by their bad attitude and disrespect for others.

Now that we understand what a reviler is, it's likewise important to point out that not only will revilers not inherit the kingdom of God, but also Paul instructs Christians not to even keep company with or eat with anyone named a brother who is a reviler (1 Corinthians 5:11).

My friends, I venture to say that we can all see the importance of understanding what a reviler is, and hopefully we can also see why it is important not to be one who speaks with abusive, insulting language towards others. Therefore, hold onto these words of the apostle Paul, "*Let no corrupt word proceed out of your mouth, but*

what is good for necessary edification, that it may impart grace to the hearers" (Ephesians 4:29).

Folks, to be simply put, if you can't say anything good, don't say anything at all. For as Jesus informed, we will give an account on the day of judgment for every idle word we speak, and by our words we will be justified, and by our words we will be condemned (Matthew 12:33-37). Jesus also says, "*Not what goes into the mouth defiles a man; but what comes out of the mouth, this defiles a man*" (Matthew 15:11).

So, with those words of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in mind, may we all always be mindful to think before we speak, and may we all choose our words wisely. For by doing so, we will certainly keep ourselves from trouble (Proverbs 21:23).

Ladies and gentleman, I encourage us all to take the consequences of being a reviler seriously. I likewise hope that we all will strive to possess the same attitude which David possessed which we read of in Psalm 19:14, and that we will all make personal application of these inspired words, "*Keep your tongue from speaking evil, And your lips from speaking deceit*" (Psalm 34:13).

In conclusion, I ask, do you fit the description of a reviler? If you answer yes to this question please repent, and make the much needed necessary changes in your life before it is everlasting too late!

✍️ Brad Phillips



Self-Control

What is the value of self-control? Self-control is that which enables us to hold our tongues when we are tempted to viciously put someone in his place once and for all; or when we know a juicy bit of gossip that would be entertaining to the group and would turn us into the "life of the party"; or when an occasion almost demands that we betray a confidence that must not be betrayed under any circumstances.

Self-control is that which enables us to control our passions when

another is provoking us to anger; that keeps the clinched fists in the pockets when the agitator is only half our size; that keeps the lips sealed when another is railing and swearing at us. Self-control is that which enables us to be like our Lord "who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously" (1 Peter 2:23).

Self-control is that which enables us to maintain purity of heart and to thrust out evil thoughts before they can take root; that enables us to place the best possible construction on another person's actions when unproven rumors could easily destroy our confidence in him; that helps us to maintain a cheerful disposition when everything around us has turned sour. Self-control is that which enables us to love the unlovable and to hate that which the world loves.

Self-control is that which enables us to rule our appetites; to say "no" when our lusts would lead us to sin or when that which is harmful to our health is placed before us. Self-control is that which enables the smoker to put down his cigarettes and the alcoholic to put down his drink and never return to it. Self-control is that which enables us to rule rather than to be enslaved.

The Bible does not glorify the indifferent and impassive. It is not our goal to be uncaring. To be like Paul, we must be able to have our spirit stirred within us when we are surrounded by evil (Acts 17:16). To be like our Lord, we must sometimes feel anger when surrounded by hypocritical self-righteousness (Mark 3:5); we must even react with occasional outbursts of goodness on occasions, as when the Lord cleansed the temple (John 2:13-17). But, all such outbursts must be tempered with self-control, that in our anger we "do not sin" (Ephesians 4:26).

God does not view our uncontrolled actions with amusement. Our temper tantrums and harsh, unbridled words are soul threatening, a potential bar to the abundant entrance into the Lord's everlasting kingdom (2 Peter 1:5-11). We must not minimize the danger. We must not surrender to this evil.

What is the value of self-control? It is one of the qualities that enable us to go to heaven. The possessor of it is rich indeed.

Bill Hall

Gospel Meeting

April 8 - 13, 2018

Sunday – 9:30 am — Burden of Authority

Sunday – 10:30 am — Burden of Truth

Sunday – 5:00 pm — Burden of Obedience

Monday – 7:00 pm — Burden of Youth

**Tuesday – 7:00 pm — Burden of Marriage
& Parenting**

Wednesday – 7:00 pm — Burden of Middle Age

Thursday – 7:00 pm — Burden of Old Age

Friday – 7:00 pm — Burden of Death

Speaker:

Steve Niemeier

Belleville church of Christ

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Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Sunday Evening Worship	5:00 p.m.
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 p.m.

Evangelist

James Hahn (317) 745-1507