

# THE BELLEVILLE MESSENGER

February 10

2019

## Encouragement For The Brokenhearted

Webster defines heart break as “a state of extreme grief and depression.” Therefore, the term brokenhearted is used metaphorically to describe the intense emotional pain that one commonly feels after experiencing things such as the death of a loved one or the betrayal of a loved one. Now, like me, I venture to say that you too have probably, at some point in your life, experienced a broken heart. So, you are more than likely very well aware of the fact that heart break hurts, and it can sometimes be extremely difficult to cope with and overcome.

However, heart break is nothing new, nor is it a respecter of persons, and again, many already have, are, or probably will at some point experience it. Even David, a man after God’s own heart (Acts 13:22) experienced heart break. In Psalm 69:20, David, experiencing a troubling time in his life, expressed, *“Reproach has broken my heart, And I am full of heaviness; I looked for someone to take pity, but there was none; And for comforters, but I found none.”*

Now, it is important to note that David, like many others during trying times in their lives, searched for comfort, peace, and encouragement. However, David informed that he looked for someone to take pity, but there was none. He looked for comforters, but found none. Therefore, David made his urgent plea for help in a time of trouble to God. In Psalm 69:1-3, David’s plea is, *“Save me, O God!*

*For the waters have come up to my neck. I sink in deep mire, where there is no standing; I have come into deep waters, where the floods overflow me. I am weary with my crying; My throat is dry; My eyes fail while I wait for my God.”*

So, what did David do when he was in an ultimate state of despair? He turned to God, giving the people of God today an example to likewise follow. You see, my friends, I suggest to you that the best way for a Christian to mend a broken heart is to draw near to God (James 4:8), knowing that He comforts us in our tribulations (2 Corinthians 1:3-4). Likewise, cast your burdens upon the Lord (Psalm 55:22), knowing that He cares for you (1 Peter 5:7), and that He will sustain you. Also, immerse yourself in God’s all inspired word (2 Timothy 3:16), knowing that His word is more valuable to you than thousands of coins of gold and silver (Psalm 119:72), knowing that His word is sweeter than honey (Psalm 119:103), and rejoice as one who finds great treasure (Psalm 119:162).

Once more, it is not always easy to mend a broken heart, but again, the best way to move past the hurt of a broken heart is to turn to God. Therefore, know that even in one’s most broken state God does not despise a broken and contrite heart (Psalm 51:17), and always remember, the Lord can heal the brokenhearted (Psalm 147:3)

*✍ Brad Phillips*



## TOO MUCH?

Following the death of Solomon the kingdom of Israel was soon divided with Jeroboam reigning over the northern ten tribes and Rehoboam, son of Solomon and grand-son of David, reigning over Judah and Benjamin. Jeroboam did not want the people of the northern kingdom to go back to Jerusalem to worship lest their hearts be turned back to the house of David and reject him as their king. To prevent this the Bible says, *“...the king took counsel, and made two calves of gold, and said unto them, It is too much for you to go up to*

*Jerusalem: behold thy gods, O Israel, which brought thee up out of the land of Egypt" (1 Kings 12:28).* Jeroboam did not openly tell the people to just forget God and make no effort to serve Him. He knew this would not be successful. Instead he told them that going up to Jerusalem and the temple would just be "TOO MUCH" to expect of them.

This appeal remains one of Satan's most effective weapons. There are many who would not think of renouncing God and making no pretense of serving Him, however they show little or no dedication to Him in their lives.

For example, there are some members of the body of Christ who are not even interested enough in serving God to be faithful in assembling with other saints to worship God. There are some who will be present on Sunday morning, but that is all. They seem to have the attitude that to attend on Sunday evening or Wednesday nights would be just "TOO MUCH" to ask. These individuals have deceived themselves into thinking they are faithful servants of God when, in reality, they are in the same condition as the children of Israel who agreed with Jeroboam's appeal.

If you are among those who think that it is unimportant to be present on Sunday evening or Wednesday evening let me ask you a few questions. Why would one who loves God NOT want to take advantage of every opportunity to worship God and study His word? Also, what about those who do take advantage of every opportunity to worship God and learn more of His will? Would you be like Jeroboam and say they are doing "TOO MUCH"? Why do you think these members take advantage of these opportunities? Do you think they are doing so because they feel they "HAVE TO"?

Those who faithfully serve the Lord do so out of love and devotion to Him. They recognize that it would be impossible to do "TOO MUCH" in His service. They do not believe that they can do enough to earn or merit their salvation. They recognize that by the grace of God they have been redeemed. They do what they do

because they DESIRE to do so. This is also true of those who are not faithful in their service. They are doing what they DESIRE to do. They do not attend any more often than they do simply because they do not want to?

I have had some tell me that the Bible does not teach the necessity of attending any more than one time on Sunday. However, the Bible does teach that we are to "... *love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind*" (Matthew 22:37). The only service God wants or will accept is that which is from the heart. The problem with these individuals is not their failure to attend every service or their lack of participation in service to the Lord. The real problem is their attitude toward serving the Lord. The Lord told the Laodiceans, "*I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot. So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth*" (Revelation 3:15,16). Some translations read, "*I will vomit you out of My mouth*" (NKJV). The Lord says such indifference makes Him sick. The Lord's attitude toward half-hearted, lukewarm service has not changed. Such is repulsive to Him and those who think they can offer such service to Him and be acceptable are simply deceiving themselves. The Lord never requires "TOO MUCH" of us.

*✍ James Hahn*

## **Belleville church of Christ**

5635 S County Rd 200E - Belleville, IN - (317) 539-5258

[www.bellevillechurch.net](http://www.bellevillechurch.net)

### **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) 443-1938