What the church looks like functioning under the will of God

I Thessalonians 5:12-22

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Relating personally with all circumstances (v.16-18)

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Relating personally with all circumstances (v.16-18)

Relating to God's revealed Word (v. 19-22)



Why We will never leave the Bible on the shelf again



Why we will never leave the Bible on the shelf again...





BECAUSE WE DO NOT WANT TO "QUENCH THE HOLY SPIRIT" (I Thess. 5:19-20)

Extinguish the Spirit of God???

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- We can affect what the Holy Spirit produces by our attitude: "Despise not prophesyings" (I Cor. 12:10-11, 2 Pet. 1:21)
- Just as the Jews "resisted the Holy Spirit" by "persecuting and killing the prophets" (Acts 7:51-52); we can "quench the Holy Spirit" by "despising" the "messages that come from God through the Holy Spirit".

- Today, the Holy Spirit's work in revelation is preserved for us in the Bible collection of 66 books (2 Tim. 3:16, I Cor. 14:37)
- It is needed "light" (Psm. 119:105, I Cor. 6:20,18-19)

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- It is needed "light" (Psm. 119:105, I Cor. 6:20, 18-19)
- Don't "quench" the light by not reading and meditating on it on a regular basis (Psm. 119:97, Psm. 1:2)

Bible Relevancy of everyday life?

Do you ever GRUMBLE at work? (Phil. 2:14-15) Are you ever COVETOUS? (Lk. 12:15)

Are you ever ANXIOUS? (Matt. 6:25-34)

Do you ever LOSE YOU TEMPER IN ANGER? (Eph. 4:26-27)

Do you ever CUT CORNERS IN YOUR WORK? (Col. 3:22-24)

Do you ever FEEL SORRY FOR YOURSELF? (Psm. 73)

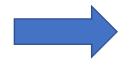
Are we not "DESPISING" God's revelation when we do not even open it to look at it?



Why we will never leave the Bible on the shelf again...



BECAUSE WE DO NOT WANT TO "QUENCH THE HOLY SPIRIT" (I Thess. 5:19-20)



BECAUSE WE MUST CONTINUE TO "PROVE ALL THINGS" (I Thess. 5:21)

• Proving the character of things by testing the things the spirits in the prophets say (I Jn. 4:1-3, 6, Jn. 16:13, I Cor. 12:10, 14:29)

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- How is God's Word your standard for proving all things if you never open it?

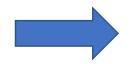


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BECAUSE WE MUST CONTINUE TO "HOLD FAST TO GOOD" AND "ABSTAIN FROM EVIL"

Hold Fast to Good – Abstain from Evil...

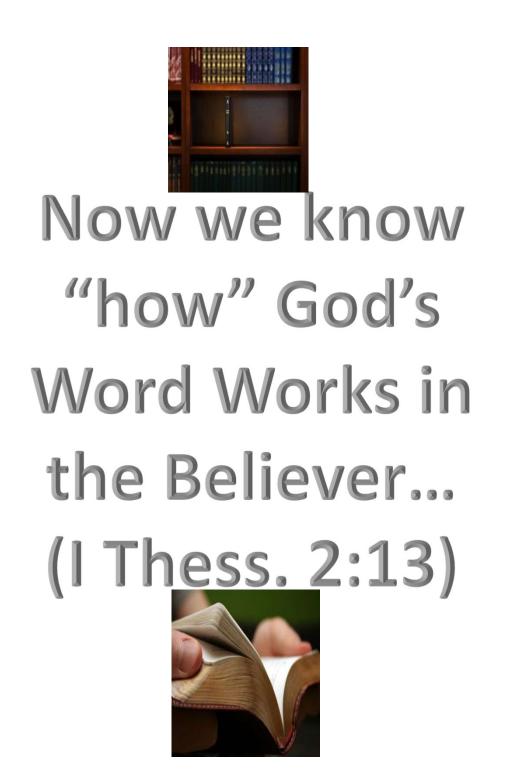
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- Senses exercised on God's Standard we can know what is good and what is evil (Heb. 5:14, Rom. 12:9)
- Strong reactions demand certainty!
- Drunken revellings OK when it is a New Year?
 (I Pet. 2:11-12, Gal. 5:21-22, I Pet. 4:1-4, Eph. 5:18, Col. 3:16)



The light is allowed to shine in our hearts

We continue to use it as our standard for testing all things

We continue to grow in it to maintain strong reactions to good and evil