



“Without Murmurings...” Sun June 9, 2024

- I. **Philippians 2:12-16** (Let's get through the hard part first...)
 - A. The “CLEAR” Definition
 1. **To Grumble, To Whine; To Complain**
 2. **A Mumbled or Private Expression of Discontent; To Complain in a low tone or in Private**
 3. *Those who think they can complain about things when no one else is around... “Do ALL THINGS...”*
 - B. Complaining is Wrong...and it is dangerous! (In God's Eyes, It is Sin!)
 1. **Numbers 14:1-2, vs. 11**
 - Sadly, many Christians are murmurers and complainers. In their marriage, on the job, when they go out to eat, drive down the road, and even in the local church they murmur and complain. They can see nothing good. To them, everything is bad...you can see it in their face, hear it in their voice...and it is one of the most prevalent sins today.
 - Why do people murmur? Their lives are miserable, and they want everyone to either hear about it or they just want everyone else's life just as miserable as their's!
 2. **1 Corinthians 10:9-10** *“Neither murmur ye as some of them murmured and were destroyed by the destroyer.”*
 - Destruction comes quickly to the complainer...
 - When you complain, you are giving access and permission to your enemy...
 - Complaining is the predecessor to your judgment on something or someone and Jesus said this in **Matthew 7:1-2** *“Judge Not that you be not judged...”*
 - C. Two main reasons why people complain
 1. **Discontent** (**Hebrews 13:5** “Be content...”)
 2. **Selfishness** (**Philippians 2:3-5** / This is powerful: People that complain about others are only thinking about one thing; Selfish people want their way and do not like it one bit if they don't get it...so what do they do? Murmur!
 - D. What If I Have A Valid Complaint? (I heard your thoughts).
 1. If it is valid within the “laws of simplicity and justice” ...or in other words, it's not just valid to you...A complaint about something is different than allowing that problem to affect your emotions.
 2. Do you remember the parable of the laborers in Matthew 20? Look at **Matthew 20:11** *“They murmured against the goodman of the house.”* Why? Because they THOUGHT things should have been different! Your thinking/opinion can get you in a lot of trouble.

3. There is never a validation for complaining...but if something is wrong, then you can become active to change it (like politics...laws can be changed when people actually do something instead of talking about it). Do all things without murmurings...
- II. What Must I Do? (The easy part...Change)
- A. **Be Thankful**
1. Find something good to look and let Praise continually be in your mouth (**Psalm 34:1**)
 2. **Hebrews 13:15** "Let us offer the sacrifice of praise..." – What does praise do?
 3. If someone at your workplace is promoted above you and you don't feel that it is right...Give God praise; be thankful for what you have and God will then have an avenue to promote you; if you choose to murmur, all you will do is live an unhappy life being mad about nothing!
- B. **Speak the Word**
1. Don't say what you feel; say what the Word says. If it isn't encouraging and building up, then don't say it or even think it.
 2. Remember, your words are either working for you or against you. When you complain, you are undoing words of faith that you want to work for you!
 3. Cedric's message: Is your axe dull? Are you swinging your axe with no purpose? The Bible says to decree a thing and it will be established. What are you establishing through complaining? All you are doing is saying to the devil, "I am no threat to you!"
- C. **Be Faithful**
1. **Matthew 25:23** – Only the faithful receive God's best!
 2. What happened to the servant that didn't do anything but complain? He lost everything
- D. **Guard Your Heart**
1. Complainers are everywhere – choose the right company so their complaints don't become your problem.
 2. If your heart is in the right place, you will never complain – guard it with all diligence; for out of it flows the issues of life.