

Church Discipline: An Expression Of Brotherly Love

2 Thessalonians 3:11-18

Commands for Christian living 3:1-16

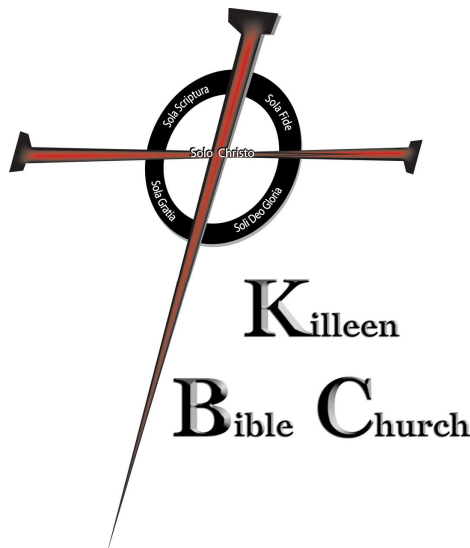
1. God's glory is advanced by the spread of the gospel (3:1-5)
2. God's glory is advanced by the disciplined lifestyle of believers (3:6-16)
 - Exhortation to avoid believer's who live disorderly (3:6)
 - Example of the apostolic team working to support themselves (3:7-9)
 - Ethic of work (3:10)
 - Exact nature of the disorder in the church (3:11-13)
 - ✓ Refusal of some to work (3:11)
 - ✓ Remedy for the disobedient few (3:12)
 - ✓ Recourse for the obedient majority (3:13)
 - Exercise of church discipline to correct the disorder (3:14-16)
 - ✓ Penalty imposed (3:14)
 - ✓ Psychological attitudes to be demonstrated (3:15)
 - ✓ Prayer for the peace of the church (3:16)

Concluding comments 3:17-18

1. Guarantee of apostolic authenticity (3:17)
2. Gracious benediction (3:18)

APPLICATIONS

1. Discipline is fundamentally an expression of God's love and care for His people (Heb. 12:4-8; Rev. 3:19).
2. Discipline is designed to restore the erring believer (Mt. 18:15; Gal. 6:1).
3. Discipline functions as protective for the whole church (1 Cor. 6-8; 1 Tim. 5:20).
4. Discipline publicly preserves God's reputation as Holy (Rom. 2:24; 1Pe.1:15-16).
5. Discipline is always to follow the procedures of due process (Mt. 18:15-18).



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