

"Let It Be"

Romans 12: 9 - 21
September 19, 2010

- God Requires That His Children Live In Genuine Love, Not Be "Bad Actors", (vs. 9 - 21)
 - Love Unhypocritical Is Never Overcome By Evil, (vs. 21)
 - We must be experienced at standing firm in the face of evil, (vs. 21a);
 1. We can't be experienced if we are isolated - **"BEHOLD** (Understand), *I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves,*
 2. We can't be experienced if we foolish - *so BE wise as serpents and innocent as doves.*
 - **BEWARE** (Forewarned) *of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues,*
 - *and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake,*
 - *to bear witness before them and the Gentiles.*
 - *"Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is." (Ephesians 5:15-17)*
 3. We can't be experienced if we are "doing it ourselves" - *When they deliver you over,*
 - *do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say,*
 - *for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour.*
 - *For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.*
 - *"I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them. For such persons do not serve our Lord Christ, but their own appetites, and by smooth talk and flattery they deceive the hearts of the naive." (Romans 16:17-18)*
 4. We can't be experienced if we are afraid - *Brother will deliver brother over to death, and the father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death,*
 - *and you will be hated by all for my name's sake.*
 - *But the one who endures to the end will be saved." (Matthew 10:16-22)*
 - *"I have said all these things to you to keep you from falling away. They will put you out of the synagogues. Indeed, the hour is coming when whoever kills you will think he is offering service to God." (John 16:1-2)*
 - We must be experienced at overcoming every circumstance in what is good, (vs. 21b); "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.
 - And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing.
 - If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing." (1 Corinthians 13:1-3)