

## Compulsion

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Compulsion. What is it? Compulsion is a sense of being compelled, forced, coerced, or constrained. It is an irresistible impulse to do something or to be someone. Compulsion is a constant sense of “must” and “necessity.”

I fear that compulsion is lacking in many Christians causing them to neglect the Lord’s work or to become unfaithful all together. We need to be more like Jesus who said, “I must”. He said “I must be in my father’s house” (Luke 2:49) and “I must work the works of him who sent me while it is day...” (John 9:4).

We need to be more like Paul who spoke of his “necessity”. He believed that “necessity” was laid upon him to do God’s will (1 Corinthians 9:16; Philippians 1:24).

Why were Jesus and Paul so compelled? Both had a strong desire to do the God’s will (to save mankind) and both had a strong desire to fill the world’s greatest need (salvation from sin).

Compulsion. What will it do for you and me? It will cause us to use our time wisely (Psalm 90:12; Eph.5:15), it will eliminate fear (2 Timothy 1:7), and it will produce a much needed zeal (Titus 2:14).

Like Jesus and Paul, our compulsion to serve Christ comes from a strong desire to do God’s will and to fill the world’s greatest need. Now’s the time to regain our sense of compulsion. - *Chris Reeves*

## Up-Coming Events

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### Gospel Meeting

April 20-23

( Thr. through Sat., 7 PM )

- Thr: What Is A Church of Christ?
- Fri: Our Mission In Your Community
- Sat: What Must I Do to Be Saved?
- Sun: That Good Book — The Bible (9:30 AM)
- Sun: How NT Christians Worshipped (10:30 AM)
- Sun: Where Did I Come From, Why Am I Here, Where Am I Going? (6 PM)

Warfield Blvd. church of Christ  
290 Warfield Blvd.  
Clarksville, TN 37043

Website  
WBCOC.org

Assembly Times  
Sunday: 9:30 am, 10:30 am, 6 pm  
Wednesday: 7 pm

Everyone Is Welcome!  
For More Information Call  
(931) 647-1324

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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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April 2, 2017



For though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh, for the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh, but divinely powerful for the destruction of fortresses.  
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-4 -

# Some Things That Are Not Good Alone

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God said from the very beginning of time, “*It is not good for man to be alone...*” (Genesis 2:18). So, he made Eve. Jesus said, “*Man does not live by bread alone...*” (Matthew 4:4). His point was that man has a need for God in addition to his physical needs.

There are some things in life that simply are not meant to be alone. Some things don't work well alone like a train without a track or a car without an engine. Some things are worthless alone like a playing card without the rest of the deck or a sock without its pair.

What is true in the physical realm of life is also true in the spiritual realm. Let us consider some things that are not good alone with regard to our salvation.

**Hearing without faith** is not good. Hearing the gospel is important (Romans 10:14-15). Hearing is how a person learns the truth about Jesus. But, hearing without faith is useless (Romans 10:16-21; Hebrews 4:2). Hearing has to be joined with faith. Hearing alone does not save.

**Faith without works** is not good. Faith is important (Hebrews 11:6). Faith shows that we believe and accept the truth of the gospel. But, faith without works is dead (Matthew 7:21-23; 1 Thessalonians 1:3; 2 Thessalonians 1:11; James 2:14-26; Revelation 2:9). Faith has to show itself in active obedience, otherwise it is a dead faith. Faith alone does not save.

**Works without zeal** is not good. Works are important (Ephesians 2:10). Works show that we are serious about obeying the Lord. But, works without zeal is mere ritualism or formalism (Titus 2:14; 1 Peter 3:13). We don't simply want to “go through the motions” in our obedience to God. Works alone do not save.

**Zeal without knowledge** is not good. Zeal is important (Romans 12:11; 1 Peter 4:8). Zeal keeps us from becoming lukewarm or even cold. But, zeal without knowledge is wasted time and energy (Romans 10:1-3; see also Acts 22:3; Galatians 1:14; Philippians 3:6). Zeal has to be coupled with the truth of God's word, otherwise we will be zealous for the wrong cause. Zeal alone does not save.

**Knowledge without understanding** is not good. Knowledge of God's word is important (Philippians 1:9; Colossians 1:9; 1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 1:5; 3:18). Knowledge of the truth keeps us from error. But, knowledge without understanding is nothing more than possession of some facts (Matthew 13:19; 15:10; Acts 8:30-31; 2 Corinthians 1:13; 1 Timothy 1:7; 2 Peter 3:16-17). Knowledge alone does not save.

**Understanding without love** is not good. Understanding God's word is important (Luke 24:45; Ephesians 5:7; 2 Timothy 2:15). Understanding keeps us from being ignorant. But, understanding without love is nothing more than assimilation of facts (1 Corinthians 8:1-13; 13:1-13). Love keeps us from mistreating others. Understanding alone does not save.

**Love without obedience** is not good.

Love is important (Matthew 22:37-38; 1 John 4:7-21). Love is the foundation of our life; love toward God and fellow-man. But, love without obedience is cold, empty, and superficial (John 14:15; 15:10; 1 John 5:1-3). Love alone does not save.

**Obedience without hope** is not good. Obedience is important (2 Thessalonians 1:8; Hebrews 5:9). We cannot be saved without obedience. But, obedience without hope will soon end (Romans 12:12; 1 Corinthians 9:10; Hebrews 6:10-11; 1 Timothy 4:10). Hope keeps us going. Obedience alone does not save.

**Hope without perseverance** is not good. Hope is important (Titus 1:1-2; 1 John 5:13). Hope keeps us from giving up when times are difficult. But, hope without perseverance will soon wither and fade away (Romans 8:25; 1 Corinthians 15:58; Colossians 1:21-23; Hebrews 3:6; 10:23,32-37). We must persevere until Jesus comes again. Hope alone does not save.

Each step in our salvation is good, but not good alone. Alone, each step is nothing; empty; hollow; useless. Our salvation is like the marriage of a man and woman who are joined: “*what God has joined together, let no man put asunder*” (Matthew 19:6). God has joined together these things. Let's not put them asunder (divide them or separate them).

Beware of anyone who says we are saved by “\_\_\_\_\_ alone.” Some things are just not good alone. - *Chris Reeves*