

## Are You Too Sensitive?

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I wonder sometimes if brethren are simply looking for an excuse to leave the local church. They know deep down inside that they are not acting right, but they don't want to leave without a "legitimate reason". So, what they do is come up with an excuse as why someone "hurt" them and then they leave. (Of course, they never quit work or school over the same "hurt feelings".)

The fact of the matter is, some brethren are just too sensitive. They think more of their feelings than of their soul. They quit or leave because of "hurt feelings". Some want the preacher to back off his "offensive" sermons or "difficult" Bible class. Others don't want the elders "meddling" in their lives or they don't like how the elders "run" the church. Some wayward Christians will not return because of "hurt feelings" from open rebuke.

Are you too sensitive? I wish more brethren were like the Canaanitish woman who came to Jesus in Matthew 15:21-28. She wanted Jesus to heal her demon-possessed daughter. At first, both Jesus and his disciples dismissed her, but she persisted until Jesus granted her request. She didn't get "hurt feelings" when Jesus wouldn't answer her at first or when the disciples wanted to send her away.

Let me encourage us all to be a little less sensitive and a little more attune to living faithfully each day. — *Chris Reeves*

## News & Notes

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Please mark your calendar with the following important dates...

**April 15:** Song practice, 5 pm, church building

**April 28:** Ladies' Bible class, 11 am, church building

**June 4-8:** VBS

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!  
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## THE WARFIELD BULLETIN

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*April 15, 2018*



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 -

*The king chanted a lament for Abner and said, "Should Abner die as a fool dies?" (2 Samuel 3:33).*

## **Man Is Not To Be A Fool**

Mankind is a rational being, not a brute beast. Man is not a "highly evolved animal" as atheistic scientists suggest. Man is the only rational being made in the image of God (Genesis 1:26-27). As such, we are all responsible before God to act reasonably and rationally (Romans 12:1-2). God wants us to use our mind to think carefully and critically about life's questions and issues. God wants us to live and die wisely, not foolishly.

To act rationally is to act according to God's truth; to act according to reality; to act wisely; and, to act for man's well-being. What man calls "wise" today, God calls "foolish" and what man calls "foolish" today, God calls "wise"!

## **The Death of a Fool**

In the scripture quoted above, King David did not want Abner, the commander of Saul's army, to die the death of a fool. What is the death of a fool? In the case of Abner, it is a death with-

out honor (2 Sam. 3:33). In Proverbs 10:21, the death of a fool is the death of one who dies without understanding God's word. In Ecclesiastes 7:17, the death of a fool is the death of one who dies before the proper time (an untimely death).

## **Who Is A Fool?**

In the Old Testament, a fool (Hebrew *nabal*) is one who is "senseless;" stupid; especially of the man who has no perception of ethical and religious claims. In the New Testament, a fool (Greek *aphron*) is one who is literally "without the mind;" without reason, without thinking, and senseless. In the Bible then, a "fool" is one who does not use his or her mind to reason with or understand God's word and then follow God's word.

## **Dying As A Fool Dies**

When it comes time to die - and we are all appointed a time to die (Hebrews 9:27) - how will you die? Will you die the death of a fool? Let's take a look at how a fool dies.

A fool dies while renouncing God. This is what Job's wife wanted Job to do; curse God and die (Job 1:10; 2:10). A fool dies an unbeliever. The fool says there is no God and he goes to his grave an atheist

(Psalm 14:1; Romans 1:20-23).

A fool dies uncaring about sin. He goes to his grave and faces God in judgment with unforgiven sin (Proverbs 14:9). A fool dies after repeating the same old folly. He returns to the same old sins and mistakes over and over again all the while hurting himself and others (Proverbs 26:11).

A fool dies while trusting self. He does not turn to God (Proverbs 28:26). A fool dies while neglecting the "inside" of his heart. He does not care that God is looking at his "inside" heart to see if it is right (Luke 11:38-40; 1 Samuel 16:7; 1 Kings 8:39; Hebrews 4:13).

A fool dies unprepared for the judgment day (Mt. 25:1ff; Lk. 12:21), not accepting the resurrection (1 Cor. 15:36). A fool dies a boaster (Acts 12:20-23) and ignorant (1 Peter 2:15).

Friend, Satan wants you to die a fool. Think! Use your head! The Apostle Paul wrote: "*Look therefore carefully how ye walk, not as unwise, but as wise; redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is*" (Ephesians 5:15-17). - Chris Reeves