

“If any man speak, let him speak as the oracles of God...” (1 Peter 4:11).

Every Man

by John Isaac Edwards

The Holy Spirit used the words “every man” in 325 verses in the KJV to reveal some important truths we need to know. Here are some things true of every man.

1) **Every Man To Be Rewarded.** Jesus taught, “For the Son of man shall come in the glory of his Father with his angels; and then he shall reward *every man* according to his works” (Mt. 16:27). Paul wrote the Romans of the righteous judgment of God, “Who will render to *every man* according to his deeds” (Rom. 2:6). The final book makes mention of this as well: “And, behold, I come quickly; and my reward is with me, to give *every man* according as his work shall be” (Rev. 22:12). These passages connect the reward with Christ’s coming. This defeats the idea that Christ’s second coming occurred in AD 70 as the proponents of Realized Eschatology would have us believe. If Christ came in AD 70, then all the rewards have already been given. Did you receive yours? The fact that every man has not yet been rewarded according to his works affirms Christ’s second coming is yet future, and there is still the need to watch and be ready!

2) **Every Man Who Hears And Learns Comes To Christ.**

John 6:44 finds Jesus saying, “No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.” Men may quote this and run in a thousand different directions speculating as to how God draws men through some mystical, miraculous manner. A reading of the context reveals, “It is written in the prophets, And they shall be all taught of God. *Every man* therefore that hath heard, and hath learned of the Father, cometh unto me” (Jn. 6:45). We are drawn of God as we are taught of God. As long as men need to come to Christ, there will be the need to teach others. Also, the fact that every man has the opportunity of coming to Christ knocks the props out from beneath the Calvinist’s concept of election and predestination — that God chose a select few to be saved, without involving their choice in the matter, and that number is so certain it can neither be increased nor diminished. Why teach every man, if every man can’t come or be drawn?

3) **Every Man To Think Soberly.** The twelfth chapter of Romans discusses how we are to think of ourselves. “For I say,

through the grace given unto me, to *every man* that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to *every man* the measure of faith” (Rom. 12:3). There is the danger of thinking too little of oneself. Some do not have enough faith in themselves. Yet, there is also the peril of thinking too highly of self. It makes a good study to give attention to some in the Bible who thought too highly of themselves. Take Nebuchadnezzar (Dan. 4:30-33), the Pharisee of Luke eighteen (Lk. 18:9-14) and King Herod (Acts 12:21-23), for example. May we have the proper view of ourselves.

4) **Every Man Fully Persuaded In His Own Mind.** Paul said, “...Let *every man* be fully persuaded in his own mind” (Rom. 14:5). This statement was made concerning eating meat (vv. 2, 15) and esteeming one day above another (vv. 5-6), in the context of things that are clean (v. 14), good (v. 16), and pure (v. 20). It is a misuse of Romans 14 to apply this teaching to false doctrine or sinful things which are neither clean, good, nor pure! Yet, there is a realm of “liberty”, where we are no

“better” or “worse” (1 Cor. 8:8-9), and we just have to make our own individual determination as to what we are going to do or not do in such situations. Romans 14:23 teaches, “And he that doubteth is damned if he eat, because he eateth not of faith: for whatsoever is not of faith is sin.” Faith here is not the gospel, but one’s personal faith. Thus, to violate one’s conscience in a matter of liberty is sinful. So, let’s be fully persuaded in our own mind and respect the right of others to do the same, without binding our personal scruples to the disruption, disturbance or division of the brethren!

5) Every Man His Own Wife, Every Woman Her Own Husband. 1 Corinthians 7:2 teaches, “Nevertheless, to avoid fornication, let *every man* have his own wife, and let *every woman* have her own husband.” This teaching, if followed, would keep the human race morally pure; there would be no sexual immorality of any kind. God’s plan for man and woman, at the beginning, was for man to leave father and mother and cleave unto his wife (Gen.

2:18-24). Jesus affirmed that what was true at the beginning is true today (Mt. 19:3-9). The Hebrew writer penned, “Marriage is honorable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulterers God will judge” (Heb. 13:4).

6) Every Man Give As Purposed. Giving to the Lord is an every man responsibility! “*Every man* according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver” (2 Cor. 9:7). To give as purposed is not to wait till the collection basket comes around and then pull out one’s wallet and see what he has to give. It requires a sense of resolve or determination and involves planning ahead, like Daniel, who “...purposed in his heart that he would not defile himself...” (Dan. 1:8). This demands a willing mind. “For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath, and not according to that he hath not” (2 Cor. 8:12).

7) Every Man Look On Others. Too many are selfish and self-centered. The Bible teaches us, “Look not *every*

man on his own things, but *every man* also on the things of others” (Phil. 2:4). As the song *Others* teaches, “Others, Lord, yes, others, Let this my motto be, Help me to live for others, That I may live like Thee.”

8) Every Man Is Tempted. James instructed, “But *every man* is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed” (Jas. 1:14). Thus, “...temptation is common to man...” (1 Cor. 10:13). We are tempted through the same avenues: “...the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life...” (1 Jn. 2:16). “Blessed is the man that endureth temptation...” (Jas. 1:12).

Let’s be about our every man responsibilities!

2017 Gospel Meetings

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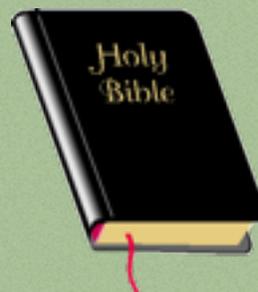
September 10-15
(Various Preachers)

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