

# NSD Notes

*For though I be free from all men, yet have I made myself servant unto all, that I might gain the more. (1 Cor. 9:19)*  
Volume 6, No. 03 April 18, 2010

## Services

Bible Study ..... 10 a.m.  
Morning Service.....11 a.m.  
Evening Service.....6 p.m.  
Wednesday Meeting.....7 p.m.

## News @ NSD

- **Janna Wells** – back problems.
- **Martha Holloway's** recurring back and heart ailment.
- **Robyn Hamilton's** sister, in hospice in New Orleans awaiting surgery after a car accident.
- **Dema's** sister-in-law – liver and bone cancer.
- **Scott Shaw's** dad, Tommy – battling liver cancer.
- **Jeanne Lynne** – recovering from surgeries.
- **Dema Franklin** – due back next week.
- **Ernest Peeples** – deploying this month.

**Sunday Morning Class**  
Psalms

**Wednesday Night Class**  
Character Studies: Nehemiah

## COMPETITION FOR THE MIND

*Dee Bowman*

In **Ephesians 4:26-27**, Paul commanded, "*Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath: neither give place to the devil.*" This passage is variously translated. Phillips renders it, "Don't give the devil that sort of foothold." Goodspeed's translation says, "You must not give the devil a chance." The Twentieth Century New Testament gives it, "And give no opportunity to the Devil." The thought in all of these is the same: mainly, don't give the Devil residency in your mind.

Someone has said, "You can't keep the birds from flying over your head, but you can keep them from nesting in your hair." In the same way, you can't keep the Devil from making periodic trips through your mind, but you don't have to give him a place to stay. In this age, there is a constant bombardment of the mind by the Devil. He is seeking a place to stay. And one of the ways he does it is by advertising. Our society is addicted to it. Its influence in our lives is astounding.

This competition for the mind is relentless and indefatigable. Just as the means is subtle and effective. Secularism is disguised as success; materialism wears the mask of excellence; free love is passed off as freedom of human expression. The result is indifference toward God.

BE SOBER, BE VIGILANT;  
BECAUSE YOUR ADVERSARY  
THE DEVIL WALKS ABOUT  
LIKE A ROARING LION,  
SEEKING WHOM HE MAY DEVOUR.  
1 PETER 5:8

Those who give over to this cunningly devised plan will find it hard to leave. Once they enter this world of "let me do it my way," they quickly become so mired that only the strongest will can divorce them from their predicament. The appetite for such loose activities cannot be satisfied and calls for an ever-deepening, always increasing evil just to top the last "satisfaction" they enjoyed.

Such careless subscription to the devil's ploys results in disaster. The giving of oneself to a life without restraint results in a cluttered, undisciplined mind, one difficult to penetrate and often without much feeling for others. Such thinking dampens the spirit of purpose, causes its adherent to be tentative in his plans, temporary in his judgment. It restrains the inclination to grow--intellectually, spiritually, or any other way. →

# North San Diego church of Christ

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All are welcome to our worship  
and study meetings!

... singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs  
with thankfulness in your hearts to God. **Col 3:16**

When I consider Your heavens,  
the work of Your fingers,  
The moon and the stars, which  
You have ordained,  
What is man  
that You are mindful of him,  
And the son of man  
that You visit him?  
For You have made him  
a little lower than the angels,  
And You have crowned him with  
glory and honor.

**Psalm 8: 3-5**

When Jesus stood  
At Lazarus' tomb  
And none believed  
He had the pow'r  
Despite their grief and their disbelief  
He commanded "Take away the stone."

When Jesus lay  
In Joseph's tomb  
And none believed  
He had the pow'r  
True love spoke forth in a Father's voice  
And the angels took away the stone

**Richard L. Morrison**

## [Restoration & Righteousness]

It is short-sighted, foolish to listen to promises of the sort we see everywhere displayed by our adversary. Three things stand out to me as necessary to guard against the Devil's efforts to capture the mind:

- 1. Make sure your focus is right.** Where are you looking? In what direction are you heading? Like Paul, we must "*press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus*" (**Philippians 3:14**). The Hebrew writer said of Jesus, ". . . who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross . . ." (**Hebrews 12:2**). We need to set before us the hope of heaven.
- 2. Develop a determination toward self-regulation in your life.** Paul said it was necessary. "*But I keep under (buffet -- ASV) my body and bring it into subjection: that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway*" (**1 Corinthians 9:26-27**). The life that is not managed properly vacillates, is tentative, not fixed on course.
- 3. Return to a regular association with truth.** It is just so that we are influenced by our companions. When you tolerate associations with the Devil, you are just apt to be like him. But when you are in constant contact with the truth, it will be the pervading influence in your life. There is a battle raging--a serious, eternal, life threatening battle. We can lose it if we are not careful. The mind is the battleground. Choose your associations carefully and well.

*The View, March 28, 2010*

LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD  
WITH ALL YOUR HEART  
WITH ALL YOUR SOUL  
WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH

**ELDERS:** Dan Austin, Robyn E. Hamilton

**DEACON:** Matt Wells

**MINISTER:** Dan Austin