

|| “The Stoning of God” ||

[Philippians 2:14-16]

INTRODUCTION:

How will you, Christian, ever persevere in this world designed to make you fall. The spirit that is now at work in this world daily presses upon you the passions of your flesh and the desires of your body and mind. HOW WILL YOU PERSEVERE?

Philippians 2:14-16

14 Do all things without grumbling or questioning, 15 that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

Paul's Prescription for Perseverance

- The ultimate goal of the Apostle is perseverance: Phil. 2:15
- How will that happen? Paul gives two “put-offs” and one “put-on”:

PUT-OFF

Philippians 2:14

14 Do all things without grumbling or questioning,

PUT-ON

Philippians 2:16

16 holding fast to the word of life,

In order for us to properly understand Paul's reasoning here, I want to take you back to the Old Testament into the Book of Exodus where we are going to find that the put-off of 'grumbling and questioning' and the put-on of 'holding fast to the word of life' are inherently and inextricably connected to one another; grumbling and questioning has everything to do with holding fast to the word of life!

- Exodus 3:7-10, 16-22; 4:29-31; 5:1-2; 5:20-21; 14:8-12; 15:22-26; 16:1-3;

a) Grumbling and Questioning is Directed Against the Lord;

- Exodus 16:4-7

b) Grumbling and Questioning is a Hatred for How the Lord has Chosen to Deal with You;

- Exodus 17:1-4
- Isaiah 46:9b-11; Amos 3:6; Lamentations 3:37-39a
- Numbers 14:10-11

c) Grumbling and Questioning is the Refusing to Hold Fast to the Word of Life;

- Numbers 14:1-11, 21-24;
 - Hebrews 3:16-19,12;
 - 1 Corinthians 10:13; 1 Peter 1:3-7; 2 Corinthians 4:16-18; Romans 8:13; Romans 8:28;
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