

“Christian Control”

Prov. 25:28

Introduction

- I. In life, there are many things that are out of our control.
- II. While that is true, it is also the case that there are many things that are in my control.
- III. As Christians, we should do our best to live our lives “under control.”

Discussion

- I. Christians should control their time (Eph. 5:16; Col. 4:5).
 - A. Each day we have 86,000 seconds, and each year we have 31,390,000 seconds.
 1. How are we using that time?
 2. Are we largely wasting it with trivial matters of this life?
 - B. We must realize that our time is very limited, and we must be in control of what little we have (Psm. 90:12; James 4:14).
- II. Christians should control their thoughts (Prov. 4:23).
 - A. Our Biblical “hearts” are our minds, and we must learn to keep our thoughts pure (Matt. 15:16-20; Prov. 23:7, 19; Phil. 4:8).
 - B. The devil knows that if can influence the heart to wickedness, then we can be led away from Jesus (2 Cor. 11:3).
- III. Christians should control their attitudes (Phil. 4:4).
 - A. Each day presents another opportunity to display a proper attitude.
 - B. Knowing the hardships that Paul faced, let us remind ourselves of his attitude (Phil. 1:12-14, 21; 4:11-12; 2 Tim. 4:16).
- IV. Christians should control their futures (2 Cor. 5:10).
 - A. No one can make us do anything that we do not choose to do.
 - B. Because of what God has done for us, we have the choice of life or death (John 5:28-29; 1 John 5:11-13; Rev. 21:8; Mark 16:16; 2 Thess. 1:6-10).

Conclusion

- I. Instead of focusing on things that are out of our control, why don't we take control of what we can.
- II. No one is stopping us from living righteously and godly, except for ourselves.