

20 05 23

## Temperance Pt 1 The fruit of the Spirit is temperance

This is a new study on the word “temperance”. We will cover three points from our search of the scriptures. To establish our teaching we search the words, temperance, temperate, can (not) contain, and discreet. From these searches we establish three points– (i) all believers are to add temperance to their base of knowledge (ii) IF you strive for the mastery (in the race, in the battle) you can ONLY do so if you are temperate in ALL things, and (iii) If you desire the office of a bishop (elder) you must be temperate.

A little more detail on our three points–

### 1. all believers are to add temperance to their base of knowledge.

[5] And beside this, giving all diligence, add to your faith virtue; and to virtue knowledge;

[6] And to knowledge temperance; and to temperance patience; and to patience godliness. (2 Peter 1: 5 & 6).

### 2. IF you strive for the mastery (in the race, in the battle) you can ONLY do so if you are temperate in ALL things

[24] Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

[25] And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible (1 Cor.9: 24, 25).

### 3. If you desire the office of a bishop (elder) you must be temperate.

[7] For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;

[8] But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, temperate (Titus 1: 7 & 8).

#### Illustration

David a man after God’s own heart was unable to show temperance (self-control) when a beautiful woman was washing on a roof top, and she was the wife of another man. He went in unto her, then sent her husband into the hottest part of the battle, so he died. And this was king David.

#### Question of the scriptures

i) WHY – As part of a man’s faith in Christ– did Paul preach righteousness and temperance?– Acts 24: 24, 25– “And as he reasoned of righteousness, temperance, and judgment to come, Felix trembled...”

ii) Given that no one has temperance, no one has self-control, how do we add it to knowledge, and strive to have the mastery in the battle, and be a bishop?

#### Answers from the scriptures

i) To preach righteousness – Paul would have preached Christ’s righteousness. To preach temperance Paul has chosen one area where we ALL fall short, where ALL sin– self-control or temperance.

ii) NONE of us can ever bear the fruit of temperance, so DO NOT TRY. But rather the Spirit of God bears fruit of temperance– against such there is no law.

[22] But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace...goodness, faith,

[23] Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law (Gal.5: 22, 23).

Let us examine ourselves before God, and ask for clarity on unrepentant sin, that we may quench not the Spirit but bare all nine fruit.