

PHILIPPIANS 2:14

“Do all things without murmurings and disputings.” This is the inspired admonition given to the Philippian brethren in Philippians 2:14. However, this admonition equally applies to us in the 21st century. Sometimes we gripe and complain without ever considering the consequences of our actions.

When all we do is complain, manifest bad attitudes, and are constant fault-finders, then we hurt the spiritual morale of others. We put a damper on their enthusiasm and destroy their zeal. We pull them down spiritually. Isn't it sad, but true, that those who do the least, complain the loudest and the most often. If you are a chronic complainer, maybe it is a sign that you have too much idle time on your hand. Find some work (and there is plenty to do) with which you can get involved. If you will do this, then you will have less time to complain.

Secondly, those who are constant complainers are in violation of the apostle's inspired injunction. Furthermore, consider this: the children of Israel are set forth as examples of those who constantly “whined” and complained in the wilderness. As a result of their actions, they were destroyed and not allowed to enter the promise land. Please take the time to read I Corinthians 10:10-12. Friends, do we think that God will be a respecter of persons and ignore our constant grumbling and complaining when He would not ignore Israel in this respect? The nature of Christianity is such that we out of love and gratitude for all that Christ has done, accept our Christian duties as privileges, and without one word of complaint render an acceptable service up to God.

The next time you start to open your mouth to complain, stop and think about the consequences of your words: “But I say unto you, that every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the Day of Judgment” (Matthew 12:36).

- Tim