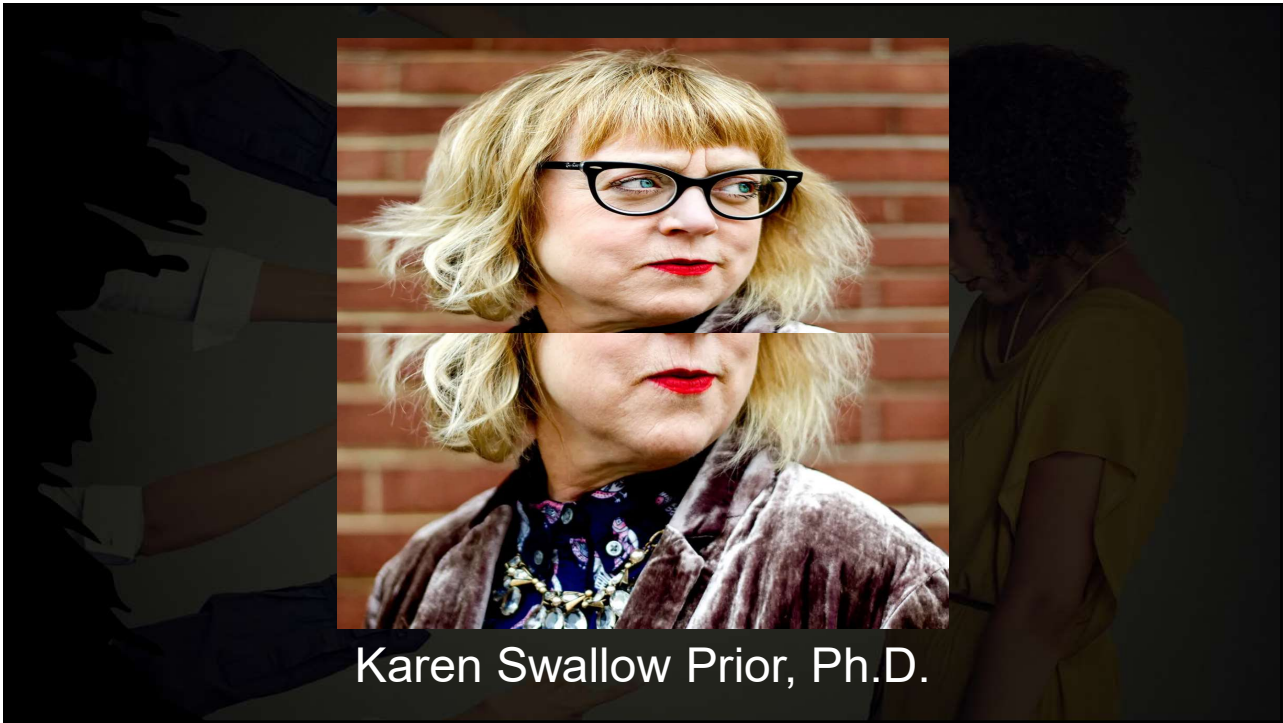




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2



“Beware the Black Robed Regiment Cosplay” August 15, 2023

Pastors, if you’re looking for a short, cheap getaway, the Liberty Pastors Training Camp later this month has a deal for you: four days, three nights and meals for just \$99. There’s a catch, though.

Just as with those timeshare offers that require attendance at a sales presentation, this stay includes a sales pitch, too.

3



Today’s self-identified Black Robed preachers are led by Dan Fisher, a pastor and former member of the OK House of Representatives, who gives presentations dressed “in full period costume” complete with props he describes as “relics from our War of Independence.” ... cosplaying Revolutionary clergy in the 21st century reflects neither biblical wisdom nor sound theology. It would be easy to dismiss such gimmickry as mere fringe.

4



Fisher and his reenactors have been reported on by numerous media outlets, going back to Glenn Beck's 2010 announcement of their formation, but more recently because of their participation in the Jan. 6 rally. Now the group is part of a pastors' conference at one of the country's largest evangelical universities. And the special rate for pastors who attend, according to the conference organizers, is a "special subsidized all-inclusive rate that has been covered by VERY generous investors." Who these "investors" are, the site doesn't say.

5



In the churches of my youth, it was controversial (and sometimes forbidden) for performers or guest speakers in church to sell their music, books or other wares in the foyer after the service. ... With eyes focused on the narrower question of whether or not it was biblical to sell Christian CDs and books at church, it is easier to be blind to larger systems and structures that would swindle the church by taking her eyes off Jesus and replacing America in his place. Such are the true robbers. Such are the tables that Jesus will overturn.

6



7



8



Lynn Yaeger

9



1. Everyone who stands for truth will be criticized

10

“Strange times are these in which we live when old and young are taught falsehoods in school. And the person that dares to tell the truth is called at once a lunatic and fool.”



Plato
(427-348 BC)

11

2 Tim 3:12 Yes, and all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution.

Lk 6:26 Woe unto you, when all men shall speak well of you! For so did their fathers to the false prophets.

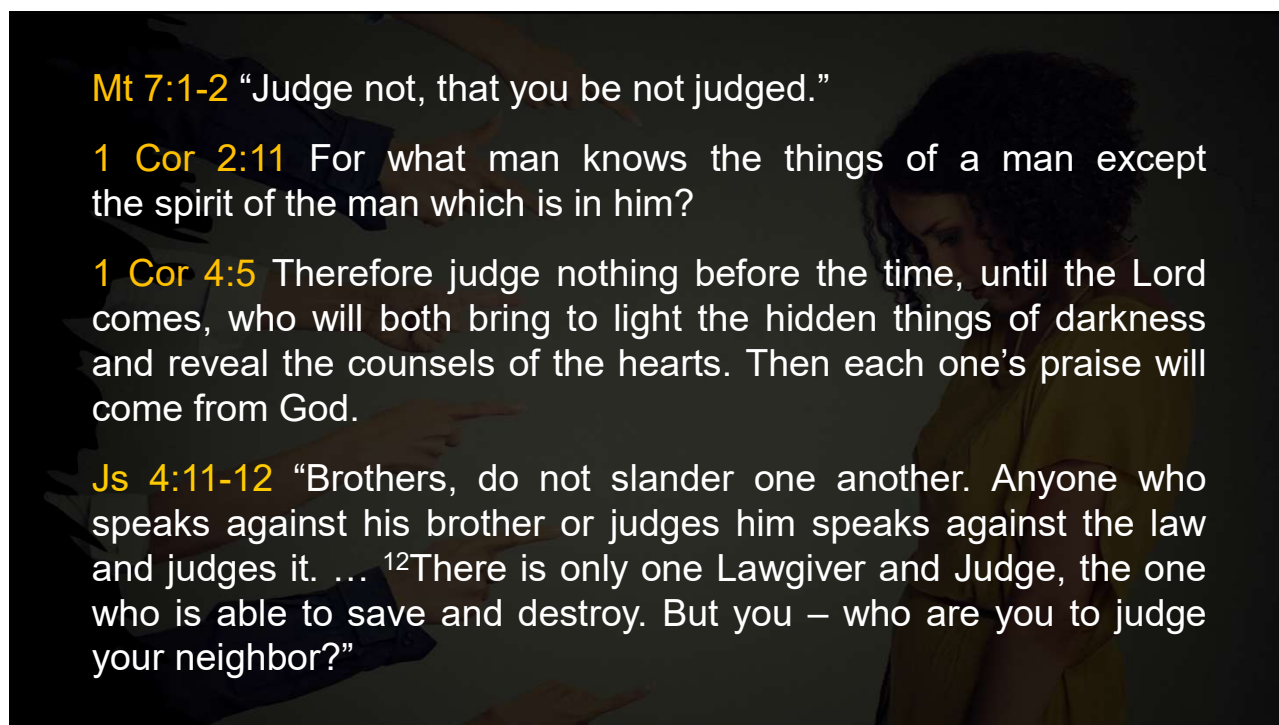
Mt 5:11 “Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake. ¹²Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

12



Scripture condemns judging motives –
not actions.

13



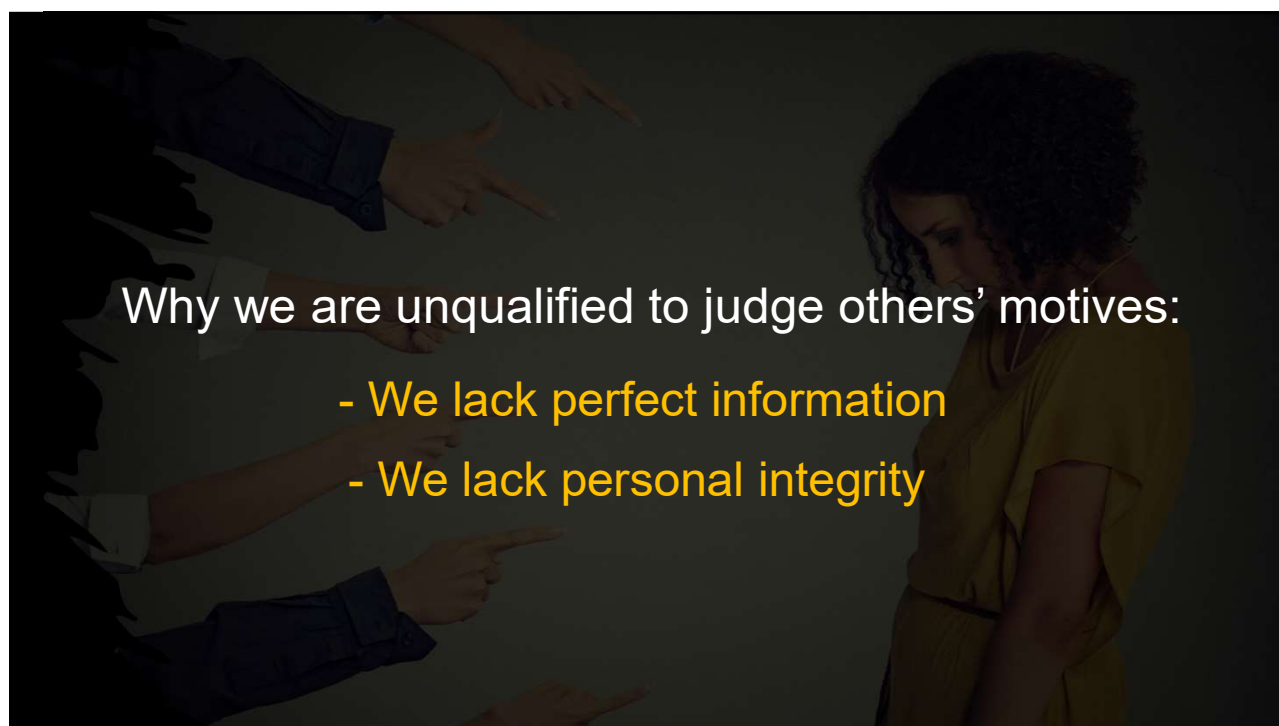
Mt 7:1-2 “Judge not, that you be not judged.”

1 Cor 2:11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him?

1 Cor 4:5 Therefore judge nothing before the time, until the Lord comes, who will both bring to light the hidden things of darkness and reveal the counsels of the hearts. Then each one's praise will come from God.

Js 4:11-12 “Brothers, do not slander one another. Anyone who speaks against his brother or judges him speaks against the law and judges it. ... ¹²There is only one Lawgiver and Judge, the one who is able to save and destroy. But you – who are you to judge your neighbor?”

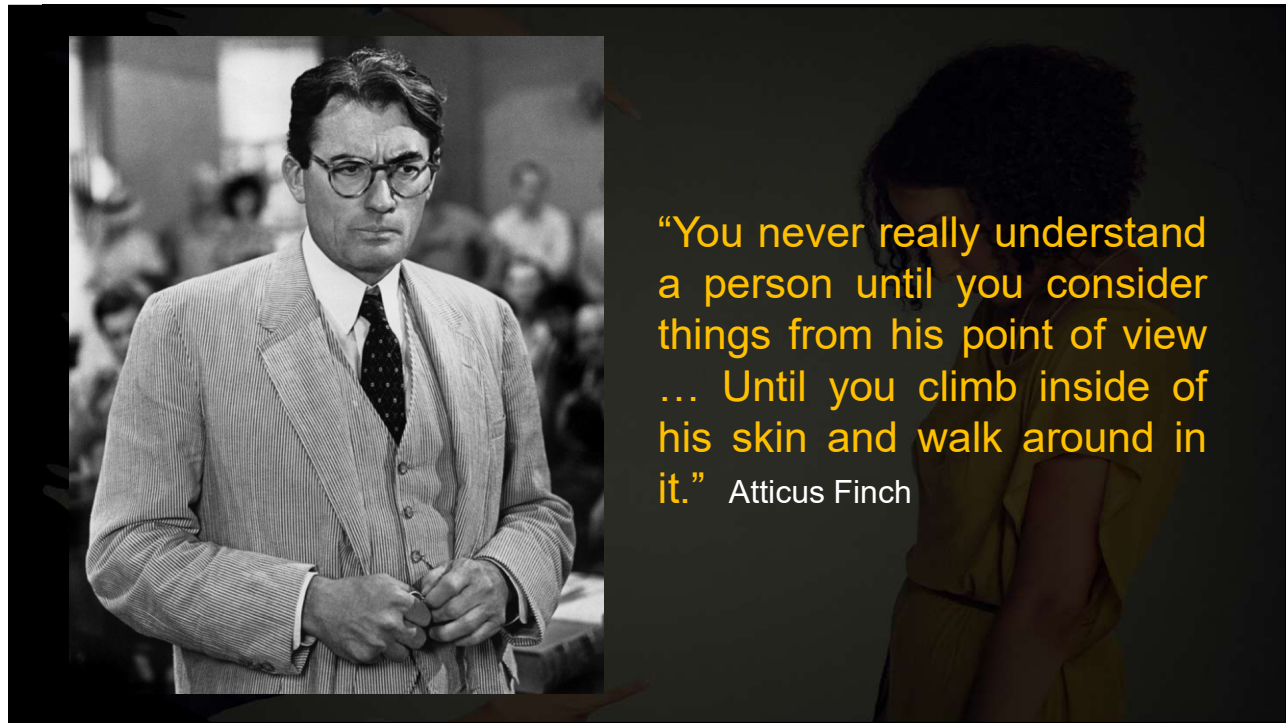
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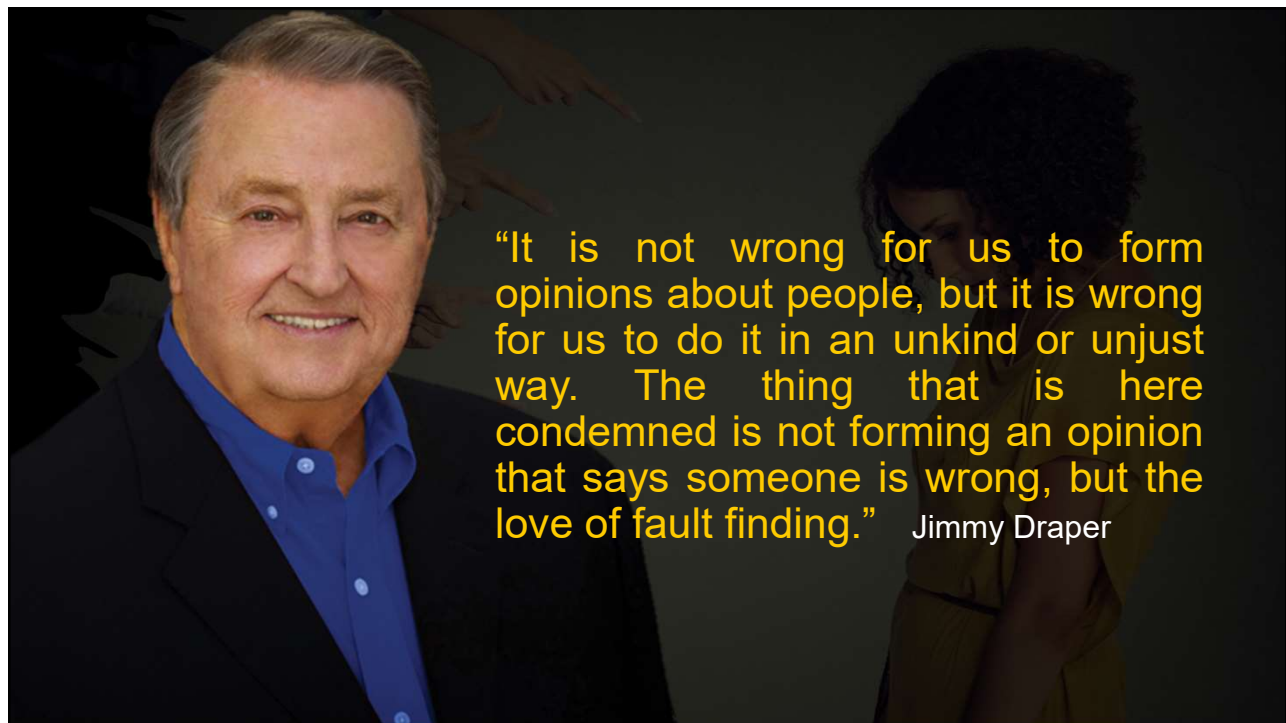
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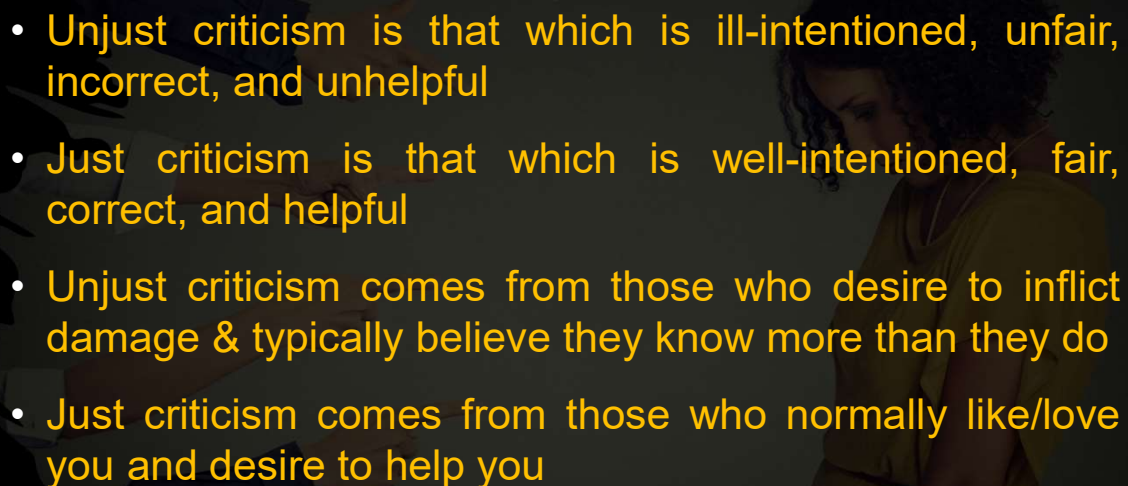


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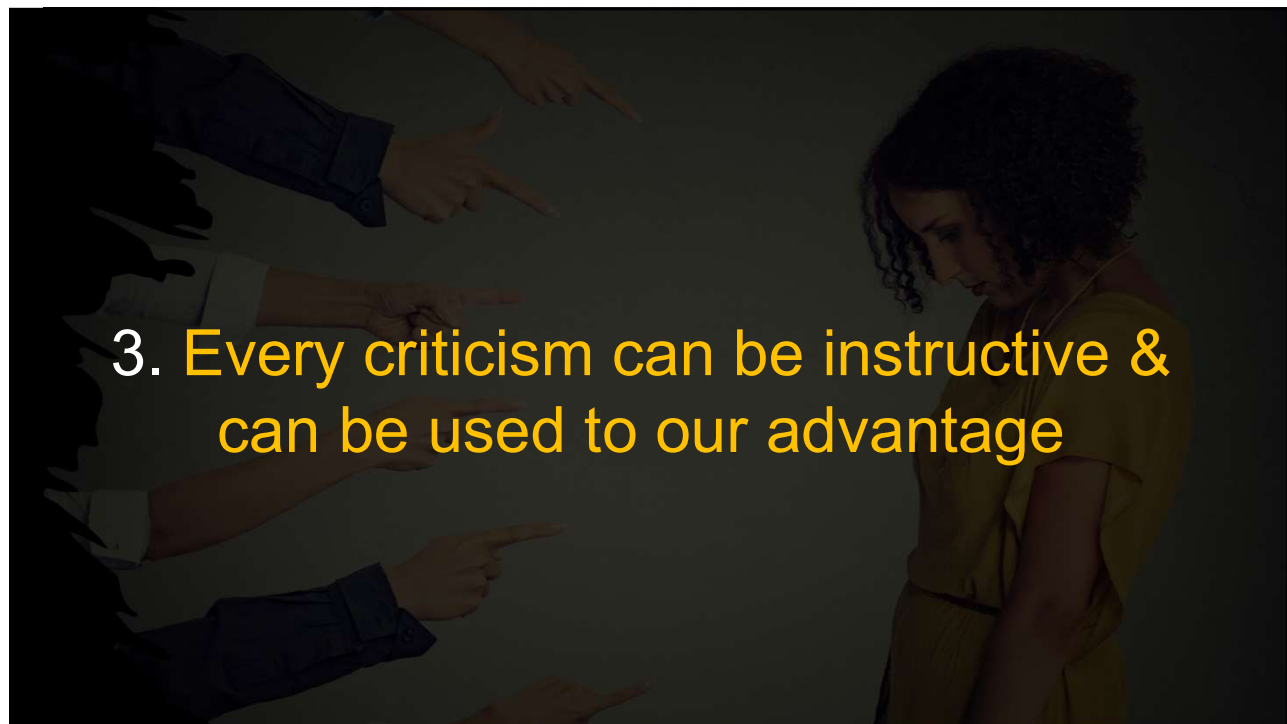


2. Two types of criticism can come our way – unjust and just

19

- 
- Unjust criticism is that which is ill-intentioned, unfair, incorrect, and unhelpful
 - Just criticism is that which is well-intentioned, fair, correct, and helpful
 - Unjust criticism comes from those who desire to inflict damage & typically believe they know more than they do
 - Just criticism comes from those who normally like/love you and desire to help you

20



3. Every criticism can be instructive & can be used to our advantage

21



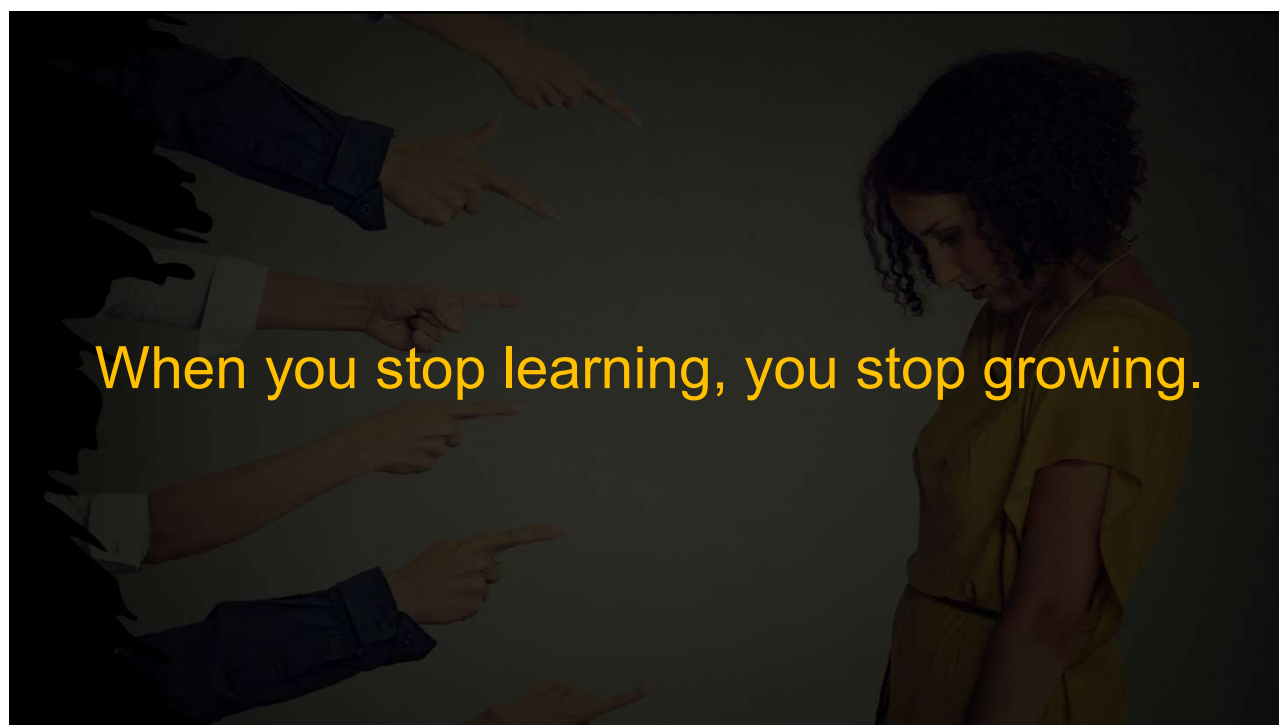
“There is a kernel of truth at the core of most criticism”

22



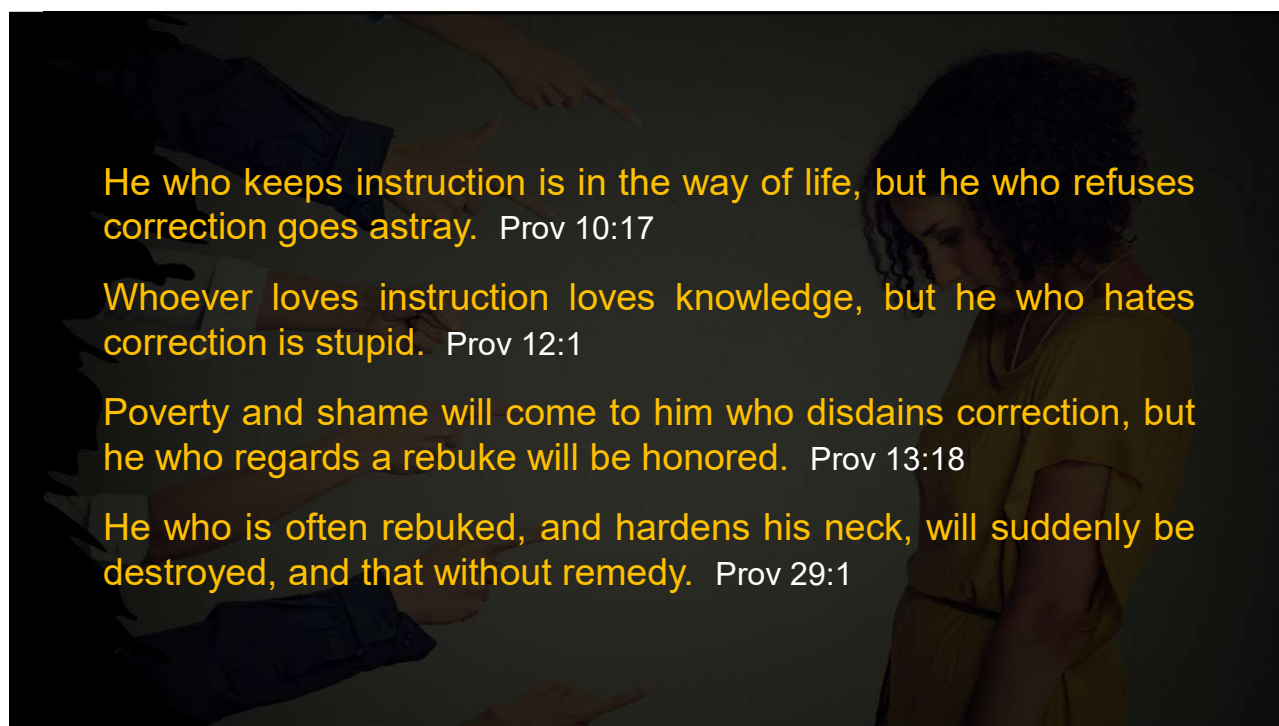
4. Scripture commends those who are receptive to criticism/instruction

23



When you stop learning, you stop growing.

24



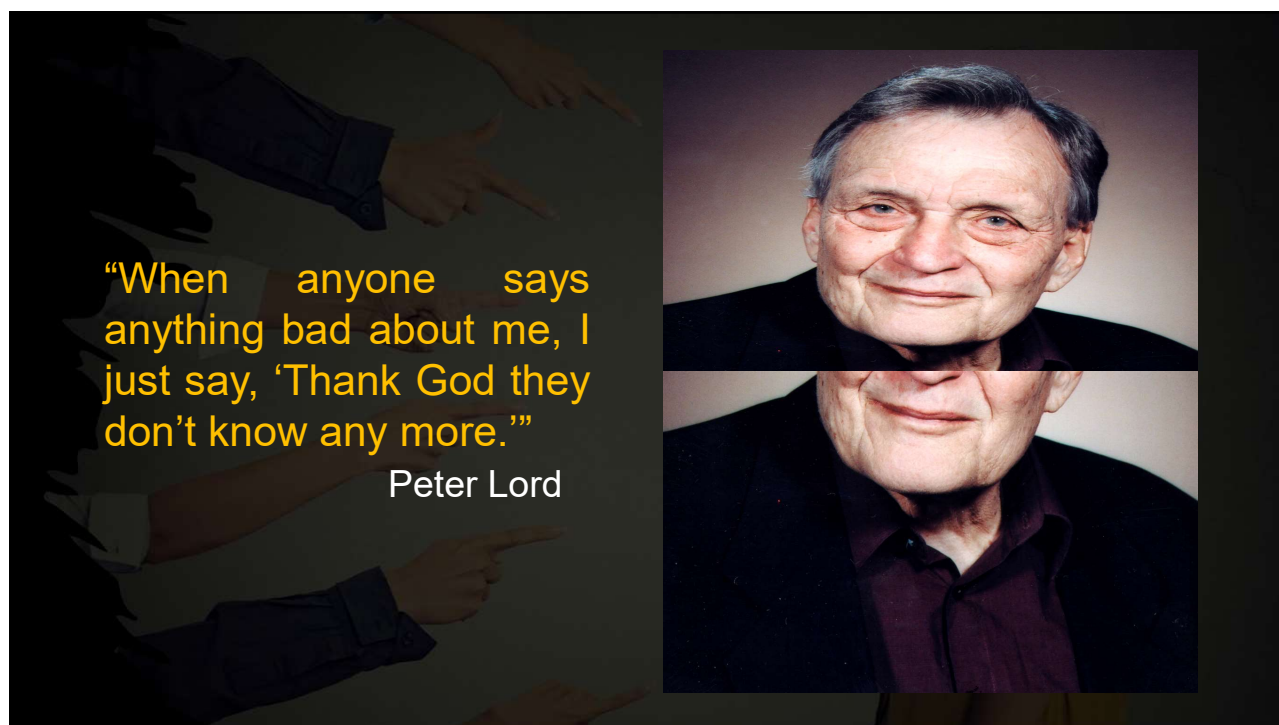
He who keeps instruction is in the way of life, but he who refuses correction goes astray. Prov 10:17

Whoever loves instruction loves knowledge, but he who hates correction is stupid. Prov 12:1

Poverty and shame will come to him who disdains correction, but he who regards a rebuke will be honored. Prov 13:18

He who is often rebuked, and hardens his neck, will suddenly be destroyed, and that without remedy. Prov 29:1

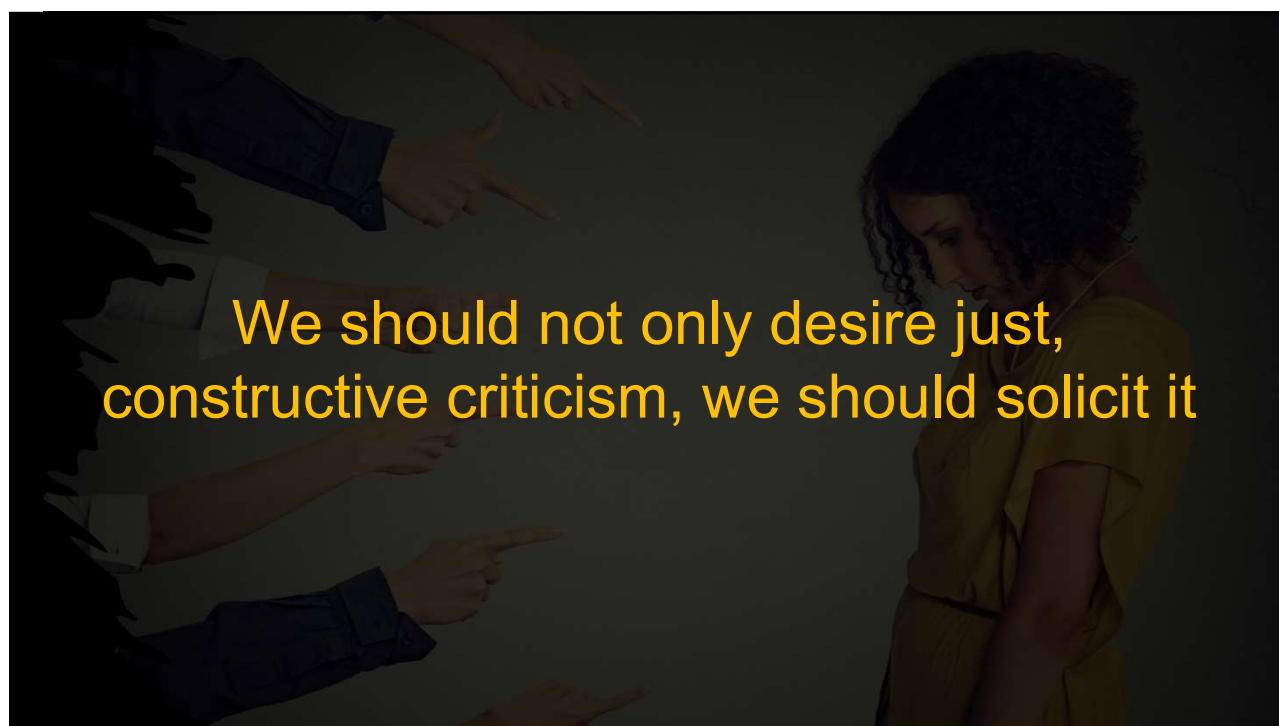
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“When anyone says anything bad about me, I just say, ‘Thank God they don’t know any more.’”

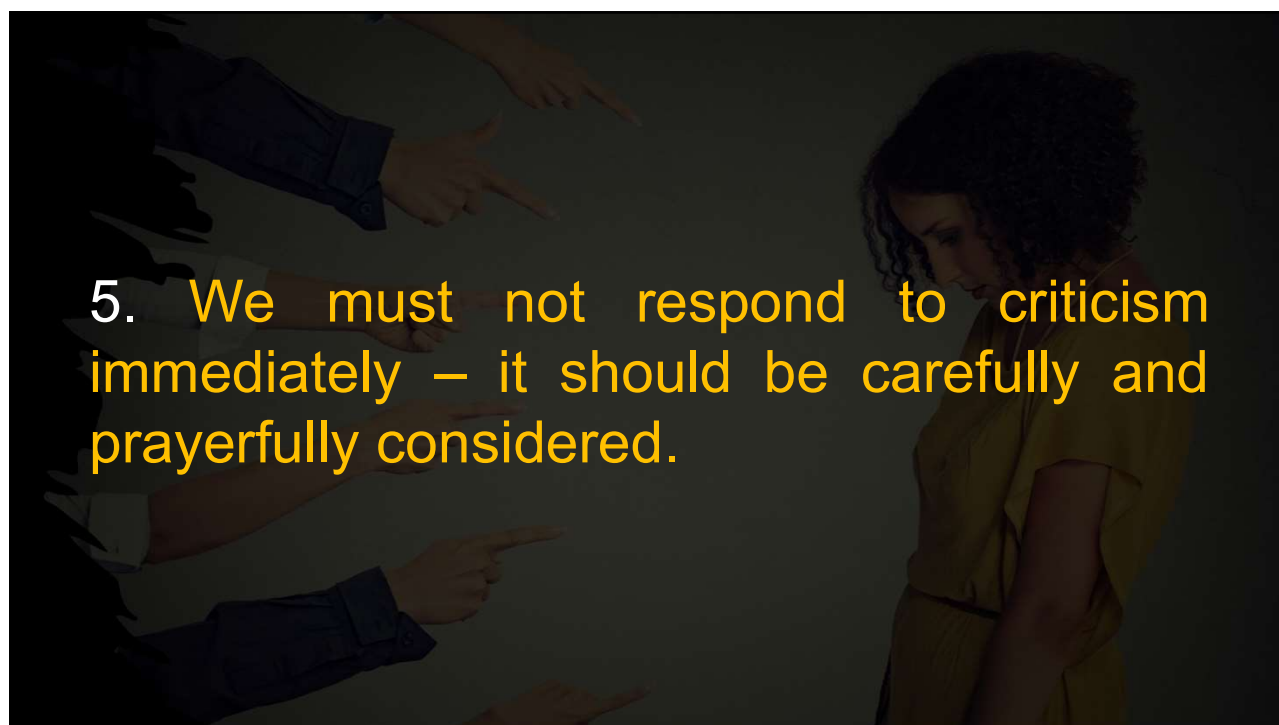
Peter Lord

26



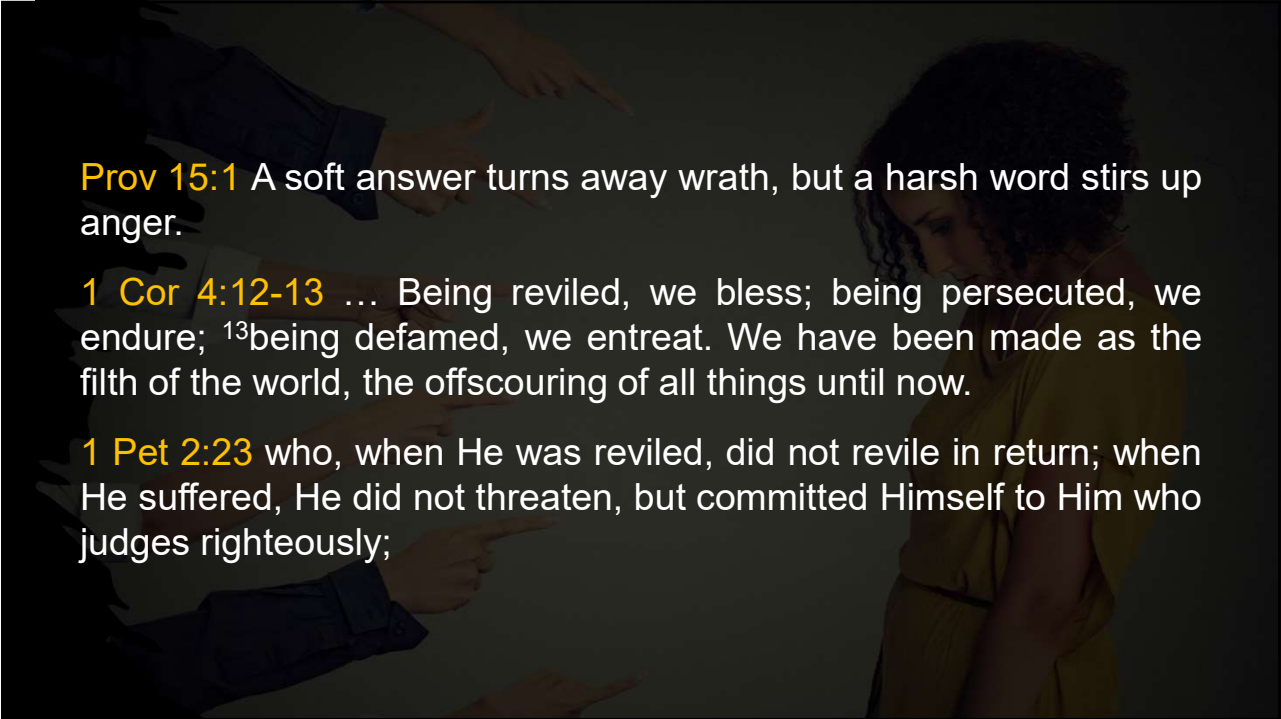
We should not only desire just, constructive criticism, we should solicit it

27



5. We must not respond to criticism immediately – it should be carefully and prayerfully considered.

28

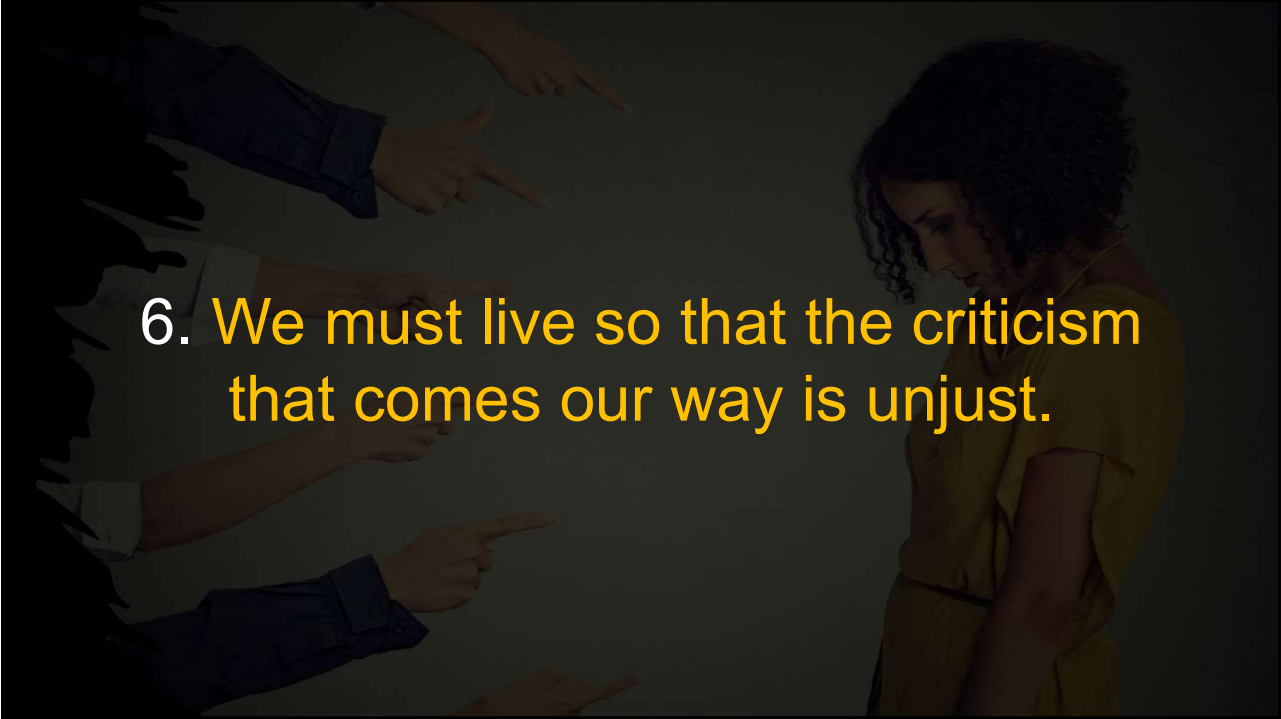


Prov 15:1 A soft answer turns away wrath, but a harsh word stirs up anger.

1 Cor 4:12-13 ... Being reviled, we bless; being persecuted, we endure; ¹³being defamed, we entreat. We have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now.

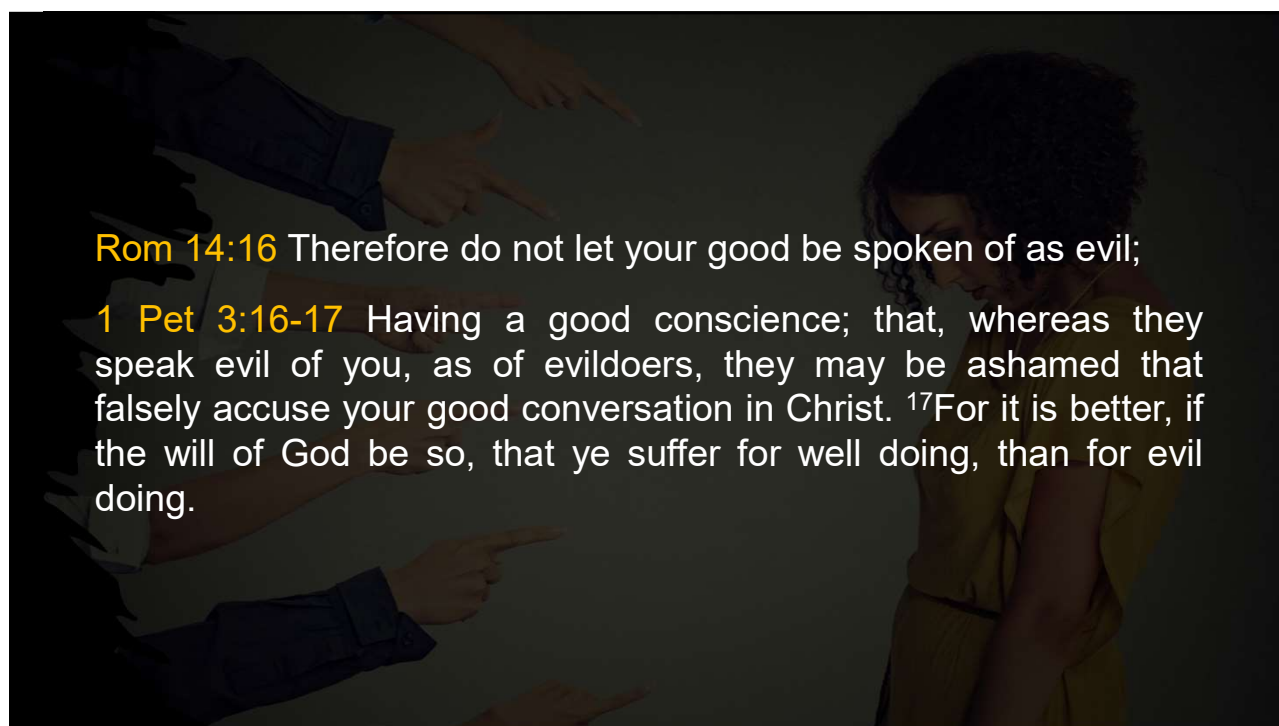
1 Pet 2:23 who, when He was reviled, did not revile in return; when He suffered, He did not threaten, but committed Himself to Him who judges righteously;

29



6. We must live so that the criticism that comes our way is unjust.

30



Rom 14:16 Therefore do not let your good be spoken of as evil;

1 Pet 3:16-17 Having a good conscience; that, whereas they speak evil of you, as of evildoers, they may be ashamed that falsely accuse your good conversation in Christ. ¹⁷For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing.