

Murmuring

Introduction:

- A. Once I spent a miserable week in the home of a preacher who complained almost constantly about almost everything (born in the objective case and the kickative mood and weaned on a sour pickle).
 - B. The apostle Paul warns against this very attitude. - Philippians 2:14
 - C. What should our attitude be toward murmuring?
- I. “murmur”: “grumble, murmur as a signal of displeasure ... against someone.... speak complainingly about someone” (W.F. Arndt & F.W. Gingrich, **A Greek-English Lexicon of the New Testament**. 163)
- II. Why is murmuring wrong?
- A. To murmur against those who do God’s work is to murmur against God. - Exodus 16:2,7-8; Numbers 16:11; Acts 20:28; 1 Timothy 5:19-20 (Why is it that those who do the least complain the most about those who work the hardest?)
 - B. To murmur about our material condition is to murmur against God. - Exodus 16:1-3,7; James 1:17
 - C. To murmur against God shows:
 - 1. ingratitude - 1 Thessalonians 5:18 (Do we complain about the thorns or give thanks for the roses?)
 - 2. rebellion - Numbers 14:1-3,9; Deuteronomy 1:26-27
 - 3. unbelief - Numbers 14:11; Psalm 106:24-26; Hebrews 3:7-12
 - 4. disobedience - Numbers 14:22
- III. What are the results of murmuring?
- A. We tempt the Lord. - Exodus 17:1-3
 - B. We provoke the Lord. - Numbers 14:11
 - C. We bring upon ourselves destruction. - Numbers 14:27-32,36-37; 16:41-49; 1 Corinthians 1:10-12
- Conclusion:
- A. What kind of church do we want: one filled with complaining and arguing or one filled with gratitude and peace? If every member were just like you, which would it be?
 - B. Brother, sister, heed the command. - Philippians 2:14