

Things By Which One May Edify Another

Romans 14:19

Introduction:

- A. A time to tear down, a time to build up. (Eccl. 3:3 NIV)
 - 1. Sometimes must tear down in order to build.
 - a. Gideon (Judges 6:25-27).
 - b. Cast down imaginations. (2 Cor. 10:4-6).
 - 2. Cannot spend all our tearing down.
 - a. Many are stay on “wrecking crew”.
 - b. Not happy building, just need something to tear down.
 - 3. Need to edify one another.
 - a. “Edify” means to build up (cf. “Edifice”).
 - b. Individually — “One may edify another” (Rom. 14:17).
 - c. Collectively — “Edify the body...” (Eph. 4:12).
- B. Bible speaks of several things by which one may edify another.

Discussion:

- I. There Are Words By Which We May Edify Another. (cf. Prov. 25:11).**
 - A. The truth edifies. (Eph. 4:15-16).
 - 1. Matures and stabilizes. (v. 14)
 - 2. Other doctrines do not edify. (1 Tim. 1:3,4).
 - B. Pure words edify (Eph. 4:29).
 - 1. Indecent words tear down.
 - 2. Deceitful words tear down.
 - 3. Lying words tear down.
 - C. Plain words edify (1 Cor. 14:19).
 - 1. Plainness does not mean rudeness.
 - 2. Plainness does not mean harshness.
- II. There Is Love By Which We May Edify Another. (1 Cor. 8:1)**
 - A. Love keeps knowledgeable people from becoming arrogant.
 - B. Love keeps does not seek its own (1 Cor. 13:5)
 - 1. Does not seek own rights at expense of others. (1 Cor. 10:23-24).
 - 2. Will not exercise lawful right (not obligation), if tears down another.
- III. There Is Peace By Which We May Edify Another. (Rom. 14:19; Acts 9:31).**
 - A. Peaceful relationships. (1 Thess. 5:13).
 - 1. Be considerate of one another's feelings and scruples where possible. (Rom. 14).
 - 2. Be longsuffering and forbearing where possible. (Eph. 4:3,4).
 - B. Peaceful meetings. (1 Cor. 14:33,40).
- IV. There Is Participation By Which We May Edify Another. (Eph. 4:16).**
 - A. Participation builds up whole body.
 - B. Participation of reduces friction.
 - C. Participation means cooperation.
 - 1. First there must be “operation”.
 - 2. Then, there is “co-operation”.

Conclusion:

- A. Let us tear down error, but build up the body of Christ.
- B. Are we building up this congregation pulling it down?