



P-A-U-S-E Before You Act!

Calvary Baptist Church

August 28, 2011

Proverbs 18:13



- I. **P – Pray (Mt. 26:39)** Have I taken this matter to the Lord in prayer and have I waited for His leading? Prayer Can Stop Us, Start Us, Steer Us.
- II. **A – Attitude (1 Sam. 25:17; Prov. 3:7; 14:16; 16:32; 22:24; 25:28; 29:11)** Have I waited until my emotions and my spirit are in check before I act?
- III. **U – Understand (Proverbs 18:13)** Have I taken the time to get an understanding of the matter from every angle, every perspective?

IV. S – Sin (John 18:10-11; Mt. 26:51-52; Luke 22:50-51)

Has God revealed that the action I am about to take is wrong?

QUOTE: “Two wrongs don’t make a right.”

A. EXPRESSIONS THAT ARE WRONG

1. The Sin of **Hasty** Words (Pr. 10:19; 15:28; 17:27; 29:11)

2. The Sin of **Gossip** (Ps. 34:13; Pr. 10:12; 11:13; 1 Tim. 5:13)

QUOTE: Love delights in **covering** sin, hate delights in **gossip** which uncovers it.

ILLUS: The golden rule suggests that we speak of the **absent** one as we would have others speak of us. *Practical Bible Illustrations*

3. The Sin of **Slander** (Ps. 101:5; Pr. 11:9)

QUOTE: To malign a person's **character** falsely is worse than **murder**.
My Favorite Illustrations

4. The Sin of **Complaining** (1 Cor. 10:10; Philip. 2:14-15; Jude 1:16; James 5:9)

QUOTE: He who forgets the language of **gratitude** can never be on speaking terms with **happiness**. *Wise Words & Quotes*.

B. EFFORTS THAT ARE WRONG

1. The Sin of Allowing Evil to **Overcome** Us (Rom. 12:20-21)

- It can be very easy to allow ourselves to **become** the very thing that we **hate**.

2. The Sin of **Vengeance** (Rom. 12:17-19)

QUOTE: To stoop to vengeance is to be ourselves conquered by **evil**. Evil can never be conquered by evil. If hatred is met with more **hatred** it is only increased; but if it is met with **love**, an antidote for the poison is found.

As Booker Washington said: "I will not allow any man to make me **lower** myself by **hating** him." *Daily Study Bible*

QUOTE: We can endure life's wrongs when we know that an all **seeing**, all righteous God will make all things **right**.

3. The Sin of **Strife** (Pr. 10:12; 16:28; Philip. 2:3; James 3:18)

Strife – a strong, sometimes **bitter** contention that stems from **self-seeking** behavior and results in producing **factions**. In the writings of Aristotle “it denotes a self-seeking pursuit of **political** office by unfair means.” *CBL*

4. The Sin of **Collective** Revenge (Ps. 1:1-2; Pr. 1:10-16)

C. EMOTIONS THAT ARE WRONG

1. The Sin of **Stubbornness** and Pride (Pr. 3:5-6; 6:17; 13:10; 15:25)

2. The Sin of **Rage** (Pr. 14:16; 29:11; Eph. 4:26)

QUOTE: Anger begins with **madness** and ends in **regret**. Phillips

3. The Sins of **Bitterness** And **Unforgiveness** (Eph. 4:26; 4:31; 12:15)

QUOTE: Only the **brave** knows how to forgive. A coward never forgives. It is not in his **nature**. — Robert Muller

4. The Sin of **Malice** (1 Peter 2:1; Titus 3:3; 1 Cor. 14:20)

κακία Evil, wickedness; **hateful** feelings; *Barclay Newman*

- Malice is **bitterness** that has been allowed to root and grow.
- It degenerated from anger over an event into **hatred** against a person.

CONCLUSION (James 1:19; Eph. 4:2-3)

- As we P-A-U-S-E before we act we must be careful to ask ... Is what I am about to do a sin?