# THE BOTTOM LINE WITH GOD'S

### **WORD for MEN**

HOLY BIBLE

#18

Theme: One Minute....!!

**Scripture**: Proverbs 6:16:19 (NKJ) "There are six things the Lord hates, seven that are detestable to Him: haughty eyes, a lying tongue, hands that shed innocent blood, a heart that devises wicked schemes, feet that are quick to rush into evil, a false witness who pours out lies and a man who stirs up dissension among brothers."

## A Thought:

Lately, for some reason I have been caught up in watching quasidocumentary reality-type prison programs. Men of all ages, nationalities and religious persuasion live in jam-packed facilities surrounded by high prison walls. Violence is a common occurrence - the inmates must defend themselves against tougher and more aggressive convicts. Tough life to endure 24/7. A slew of willing inmates are interviewed. They voiced their respective pre, present and post-prison experiences. One such startling and passionate utterance with a redemptive tone is the "one minute" choice of whatever crime they committed. They look back and wish that the "one minute" never took place. A one minute altered life decision.... and now they are suffering the consequences. All of us at one time or another have done something stupid. That if we had taken the time for our mind to deliberate and more important lean on God's royal law we would not have gotten into trouble. You know what I am talking about e.g., a smarty remark, lack of compassion, a uncontrollable temper, vulgar language, fleshly desire, gossip or criminal act. Paul says as much in Romans 13:13-14 (HCSB) "Let us walk with decency, as in the daylight; not in carousing and drunkenness; not in sexual impurity and promiscuity; not in quarreling and jealousy. But put on the Lord Jesus Christ and make no plans to satisfy the fleshly desires.' Now....what are your thoughts? Write them down.

#### Talk to yourself:

- How many "one minute" stupid things have you experienced?
- What steps have you taken so that it will not happen again?
- Do you think before you act? If not, why not?
- Is God first in your life?

#### Scriptures to read:

• Proverbs 14:16-19, 28, 29; 3:21-23; Matthew 6:13; James 1:19-25, 2:8,3:1-12; 3:5-6; Romans 12:17-19; Ephesians 4:29; Ecclesiastes 12:13-14

#### Quote:

Mario Cuomo, 52nd Governor of New York "Every time I've done something that doesn't feel right, it's ended up not being right."

#### **Bottom Line:**

At one time or another many of us unfortunately have experienced the dreaded "one minute" lunacy. Instead of being imitators of God we loose ourselves in ourselves. Trouble lurks just around the bend especially when we forget the importance of God in our lives. Luck has it... as Christians there is spiritual light at the end of the LOVE Tunnel - that is God's Love Tunnel! This is not me talking - it is straight from the living word.

Ephesians 5:8-11 (NKJ) "For you were once in darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as children of light for the fruit of the light consists in all goodness, righteousness and truth, and find out what pleases the Lord. Have nothing to do with the fruitless deeds of darkness, but rather expose them."

#### NOW.....THAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE.

Spiritual Dabbler, Your bro, Ray

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