

FAULTFINDERS

**When you hark to the voice of the knocker,
As you list to the hammer fall,
Remember the fact, that the knocking act,
Requires no brains at all.**

**When you list to the growl of the growler,
And you list to his ceaseless growl
You will please recall, that a dog is all,
It takes for an endless howl.**

**As you watch the kick of the kicker
As you notice his strenuous kick,
You'll observe the rule, that a stubborn mule,
Is great at the same old trick.**

**The knocker, the growler, the kicker,
Faultfinders, large and small,
What do they need, for each day's deed?
No brains ... No sense ... Just gall!**

WILL NEGATIVISM BE YOUR LEGACY?

Have you ever noticed that some people know all the reasons why something will not work, no matter what the suggestion might be? Some people will know only bad things about some person who might be mentioned in conversation. People who have a personality colored by such feelings of negativism are generally grumpy and miserable. It often seems their only happiness comes from coercing you to agree with them. I surmise, the old axiom "misery loves company" may have originated from such observation. Much joy and constructive pursuit is overlooked by the individual with this distorted approach to the available and helpful considerations of this life.

It is undeniably true that obedience to the will of God requires a restraining directive. Such need is provided by the Bible's "thou shalt nots". Brother Paul admonished the

Romans, “...*be NOT conformed to this world*” (Rom. 12:2). He enumerated to the Galatians some works of the flesh and said, “*they which do such things shall NOT inherit the kingdom of God.*” (Gal. 5:21). However, it should also be noted and remembered that the Lord wants a positive and happy outlook to promote our usefulness. Paul’s confidence is evident in such statements as “*I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.*” (Phil 4:13). He had also instructed the Philippians to “*Rejoice in the Lord always: and again I say, rejoice.*” (Phil. 4:4).

When one permits self to consider the multitude of blessings provided by a loving God to us His creation, surely one’s gratitude will break out into cheerfulness, well-doing and love for God and for one’s fellow man.

(Negativism = an attitude of mind marked by skepticism, especially about nearly everything affirmed by others. {Mirriam-Webster’s Dictionary})

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