

Fr. Perozich comments —

Every human being needs to “yield [him] yourself to the Master” who is Jesus Christ, the Son of God who sends the Holy Spirit to us who trust in the holy and immortal Trinity.

Wordsmiths and those with the bully pulpit foolishly confuse virus/vax, climate theory, race theory, immigration, self defined rights, justice, fairness, equality of outcome, socialism imposition, control of others’ thoughts and worship styles as avenues to unity and peace, toward a utopia which cannot be realized on earth.

*For a man baptized by water and the Spirit Jn 3:5, who feeds off the flesh and blood of Jesus Jn 6:52-58, who does the Father’s will so that the Father and Son make their home in him (the indwelling of the Holy Spirit (Jn 14:23), that man has the power of **self control**, **provided he exercise it**, even when clergy, NGOs, governments, educators, scientists are imposing their controls.*

The vices, from the word vicious meaning cruel, twisted, depraved, suck the life out of the soul.

The virtues build up the soul by God’s grace and man’s cooperation.

The virtues and their corresponding vices are:

<i>Humility</i>	<i>Pride</i>
<i>Meekness</i>	<i>Ire</i>
<i>Generosity</i>	<i>Greed</i>
<i>Magnanimity</i>	<i>Envy</i>
<i>Diligence</i>	<i>Sloth</i>
<i>Temperance</i>	<i>Gluttony</i>
<i>Chastity</i>	<i>Lust</i>

Galatians 5:19-26 shows the vices and offers the fruits of the Holy Spirit to those who engage their faith.

*19 Now the works of the flesh [unredeemed or unrepentant humanity] are obvious: immorality, impurity, licentiousness, 20 idolatry, sorcery, hatreds, rivalry, jealousy, outbursts of fury, acts of selfishness, dissensions, factions, 21 occasions of envy,*drinking bouts, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. 22 In contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, **self-control**. Against such there*

is no law. 24 **Now those who belong to Christ [Jesus] have crucified their flesh with its passions and desires.** 25 *If we live in the Spirit, let us also follow the Spirit.* 26 *Let us not be conceited, provoking one another, envious of one another.*

It is time for Christians to preach to the whole world this life in the Spirit which flows from the grace of Jesus. If ranking clergy are obsessed with banning worship styles, virus/vax, immigration, climate, race, masks, and on, there is not much simple folk can do to silence them.

*But we can shame them back to Jesus by **self control**.*

*Christian voices need to be raised to the truth of our destiny: 1 Peter 2:9 **you are “a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people of his own, so that you may announce the praises” of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.***

Unless I preach Jesus again and again, people may become deaf to His message.

Romans 10:13 For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” 14 But how can they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how can they believe in him of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone to preach? 15 And how can people preach unless they are sent? As it is written, “How beautiful are the feet of those who bring [the] good news!”

Even though Christians preach Jesus, Paul continues his discourse to the Romans:

*16 But not everyone has heeded the good news; for Isaiah says, “Lord, who has believed what was heard from us?” 17 Thus **faith comes from what is heard**, and what is heard comes through the word of Christ. 18 But I ask, did they not hear? Certainly they did; for “Their voice has gone forth to all the earth, and their words to the ends of the world.” 19 But I ask, did not Israel understand? First Moses says: “I will make you jealous of those who are not a nation; with a senseless nation I*

*will make you angry.” 20 Then Isaiah speaks boldly and says: “I was found [by] those who were not seeking me; I revealed myself to those who were not asking for me.” 21 But regarding Israel [the old Israel of Paul’s time and the new Israel of Christians of our time] he says, “**All day long I stretched out my hands to a disobedient and contentious people.**”*

*I know the playing field of a disobedient and contentious people. I know the training in Jesus Christ. I understand my role, and I put it into practice with the grace of God, starting with **self control**, and then enter the playing field to bring the name and grace of Jesus to the world.*

The crying need for self-control in our time

By [Jerry Newcombe August 4, 2021](#)

Virtually every day we see examples of men and women who are out of control in modern society. And they are making life miserable for many.

For example, 51 people were shot in Chicago this last weekend—eight of them fatally. This is so common we almost grow callous to the news.

People lack self-control. The Bible talks about the traits of a godly person who draws close to Christ and develops over time what is called “the fruit of the Spirit.” In his [letter to the Galatians](#), the Apostle Paul lists the fruit of the Spirit as love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and **self-control**.

We need all these today. But I want to home in on the last one.

There is a widespread lack of **self-control**. Consider the ways.

We see young people consumed with their screen devices. I have actually seen a family of four eating out at a restaurant and no one was talking with each other. Instead, each one was immersed in his or her mobile device. I wouldn't be surprised if some of them were texting each other. "Say, do you want dessert?" "Yeah, maybe the tiramisu."

Look at the example of the lack of **self-control** when it comes to the tongue. That includes what is "spoken" through emails and tweets and texts.

In this politically correct age, anybody who's a public figure could be one stupid remark away from destroying virtually everything.

Solomon the Wise wrote in the book of Proverbs, "Do you see a man who is hasty in his words? There is more hope for a fool than for him." How many times have we said something that we wish we could take back? In our age of Twitter and Facebook, once you post something, it's there forever, for all practical purposes.

Abraham Lincoln reportedly said, "It is better to be thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt." But the Bible beat President Lincoln to it by about 2800 years. In Proverbs, we read, "Even a fool who keeps silent is considered wise; when he closes his lips, he is deemed intelligent."

Ambrose Bierce once observed, "Speak when you are angry and you will make the best speech you will ever regret."

Self-control is often lacking in the realm of finances and spending today as well. Author Robert Morrissette said, "A credit card allows you to transcend time. For it allows you to put off until tomorrow what you bought today, while you are still paying what you bought yesterday."

In short, many people are living beyond their *means*.

But then there's a lack of **self-control** when it comes to gluttony and eating. In short, many people are living beyond their *seams*.

Think of the lack of **self-control** when it comes to alcohol or drugs today. There are recovery groups all over the place—thank God for that. Yet it is tragic that so many get addicted in the first place.

Then there's a lack of **self-control** when it comes to holding one's temper. If you look at the news, we are living in angry times. Strangers beating up strangers—not controlling themselves. We see examples of road rage—where cutting someone off could actually lead to a fatal confrontation.

I remember one time in a W.C. Fields movie from around 1940, where this girl got so mad at these two little boys that she picked up a rock to throw it at them. And W.C. Fields said, “Ah, ah, ah. Count to ten.” She counts, “1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8-9-10.” He says, “Now throw it. You've got a better aim that way.”

Even many forms of therapy encourage people to vent their anger, to the point where “let it out” has become a mental-health strategy. But the Bible says if you control your temper, you are greater than one who controls a city.

I could go on with example after example of the crying need for more **self-control** in our time.

The founders envisioned America as a land where the people would have liberty, but liberty is not the same thing as licentiousness—where people act in lawless ways as if there were no consequences to their misdeeds.

Our second president, John Adams, once wrote, “We have no government armed with power capable of contending with human passions unbridled by morality and religion. Avarice, ambition, revenge, or gallantry, would break the strongest cords of our Constitution as a whale goes through a net. Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people. It is wholly inadequate to the government of any other.”

When people get truly converted in their heart, so often they experience a new level of **self-control**. This is what we need more of in our society, not less.

If you would experience self-mastery, then yield yourself to the Master.

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