**Stop All Of That Complaining!**

(Matthew 27:22 KJV)

*Pilate saith unto them, What shall I do then with Jesus which is called Christ? They all say unto him, Let him be crucified.*

S

adly, many Christians are murmurers and compulsive complainers. In fact many are members of the fault finding campaign committee, not knowing many times that their own lives are out of alignment with God's divine purpose. In fact, many complain in the home, some on the job, and in the local church they constantly grumble with discontentment, murmur with discouragement, and complain with dissatisfaction. They can see nothing good nor say nothing good—not understanding that glass houses should not throw rock and hide their hands. Furthermore, whenever their ideas are not healthy for the church, to them everything is bad—but surprisingly if you take a microscopic look at their lifestyle, it's miserable and they want to make it that way for everyone else—and make them feel uneasy, unhappy, uncomfortable and deplorable.

Sometimes I have the impression as a pastor that some folk enjoy complaining. Some folk have degrees in complaining that has nothing to do with proper Christian education! And they especially like to complain in order to make the problems of life other's fault. We hear complaining about the church, but not much about the devil in the church—we complain about it's too hot, too cold, that song is too fast, the sermon is too long, the prayer is too slow, the repairs are too expensive or not good enough, we further complain about when a person only put three dollars in church, that they're too cheap because they love that money more than the people. Some complain about them not being treated right—but my sister, my brother, if you're wrong you're just wrong! Some complain about life is not fair, did you hear what they said to me? I can't believe how I was treated! In other words, complaining is basic to human nature, but it is also a product of faith that's in a crisis.

In relation to the local church, if you have a just complaint about the services, the temperature of the building, the singing, the Song leader, the Elders, the Preacher's doctrine, the Midweek services, the Sunday school, Deacon's ministry, the Youth department or the Members of the church, a complaint is in order. But if it is not corrected as you would have it, do not complain—because such complaining is wrong. So here's a word of advice if you're the guilty one "Stop All Of That Complaining!"

Now don't be dismayed complaining just didn't start in the 21st century—there's several examples of the sin of complaining in the New Testament, like the parable of the laborers in the vineyard (Matthew 20:1-16). They complained because they had worked all day while others who had worked for a much shorter shifts received the same wages. They had received their just due but they still complained about what the others made.

The Scribes and [Pharisees](http://www.padfield.com/2001/compassion.html) complained against the disciples of Jesus because they ate and drank with publicans and sinners but they were really irritated and exasperated with Jesus (Luke 5:29-32). They did not care that the publicans and sinners needed Jesus. They were only concerned with their personal agenda—so they set-up a complaint committee called the Sanhedrin Council consisting of Jewish men to dislodge attacks against Jesus and dismantle his ministry.

Then on one occasion the Jews complained about Jesus because He said He was the bread of life (John 6:41)—instead of investigating His claim in an effort to know the truth, they complained. If we were to summarize the general tone of these examples it would be fair to bring down the curtains and consummate that when the behavior of Jesus was not according to what they desired it should be, they complained because they couldn't have their way.