

## IS THE PULPIT THAT DUSTY?

(Acts 2:41-47)

### Introduction:

1. Having just returned from Polishing the Pulpit, let me answer the title. Yes, it is!
2. We polish things over and over because they do not stay in the condition they are left in. That is called the law of entropy, the 2<sup>nd</sup> law of thermodynamics = things tend towards disorder.
3. This truth we all understand and agree upon with regards to the physical world also relates to our faith and thus the spiritual world.
4. Let us consider the reasons for Christians to meet, the multitudes of meetings, and conclude with a call to meet.

### Discussion:

#### **I. The Reasons for Meetings.**

##### A. Old Testament precedent (Ex. 23:14-17; 34:23; Deut. 16:16).

1. They were a special people (Deut. 4).
  - a. God chose them and saved them to Himself (vv 1-5, 20, 32-38).
  - b. They were to be a light to all the world (vv 6-8).
2. Faith can grow cold. The sad cycle of the Book of Judges drives this truth home over and over.
3. Iron sharpens iron (Prov. 27:17).

##### B. New Testament precedent (Luke 22:19; 1 Cor. 11:24-26; Heb. 10:19-35).

1. Christians are a special people (1 Pet. 2:9, 10).
2. Faith can grow cold and iron sharpens iron (Heb. 10:19-39).

##### C. Present day needs.

1. We are still a special people (Gal. 6:16; Titus 2:14).
2. Our faith can still grow cold (the ember removed from the fire cools, but can be brought back to flame by proximity to fire; cp. 2 Tim. 1:6).
3. Iron still sharpens iron (1 Thess. 4:18).

#### **II. The Multitudes of Meetings.**

- A. Meetings here in Jamestown = Sunday and Wednesday services; fellowship events; retreats; Gospel meetings and seminars; brethren fellowshiping and studying with one another.
- B. Meetings in the brotherhood: Lectureships; Christian camps; other brotherhood Gospel meetings/seminars; etc.

#### **III. The Call to Meetings.**

- A. People that are sick or hurting seek health and comfort.
- B. People in love spend time with their love, and can't stop talking about their love.
  1. How good to assemble with those of like precious faith (2 Pet. 1:1).
  2. Loving our God leads us to love others, and this entails helping them to grow in their faith.
- C. What better way to show your devotion to God than to "spend" your time away from work in the service of the Lord (preparation and performance). What better way to thank God for all that He has done for you, than by being saved and helping others to do likewise.

### Conclusion:

1. Consider the big picture implications of Peter's words in 2 Pet. 3:17, 18. Because of what we know (the revelation from God to man), let us not fall away from our steadfastness (often led away by error), but rather, let us grow in the grace and knowledge of God.
2. Invitation.