

# From The Pastor's Pen



*"...we must continue to encourage each other even more as we see the day of the Lord coming."* **Hebrews 10:25 GWT**

An old tale for these difficult post-modern times.

Some years ago, the devil decided to have a garage sale and sell all his old tools. On that Sunday morning, he had all of his tools laid out with a price on each. Hatred - \$6.99, Envy - \$6.99, Jealousy - \$8.99, Doubt - \$11.99, Lying - \$7.99, Pride - \$12.99, Temptation - \$15.99 and so on. But on the last table all by itself was an old, harmless looking, well-worn tool and its price was \$1,000,000. That very expensive priced tool was named **Discouragement**.

One shopper asked Satan, "Why are you selling that one for so much, what's the difference between it and all the other tools?" The Devil replied, "Discouragement costs so much more because it is more useful to me than all the others. With that one tool, I can get inside a person's heart when I can't get in with other tools. Once I get inside, I can lead that person any way I choose. That old tool, discouragement, is very worn because I use it on just about everyone and the best part is very few people know it belongs to me."

Satan loves to use the tool of discouragement to slow our growth and destroy our dreams. Satan understands that discouraged people will often discourage others. However, God's people have a tool much more powerful called encouragement! With encouragement we can motivate the miserable, lift the lonely, bless the burdened,

inspire the injured and counsel the confused.

With love in our hearts and words of encouragement we can rekindle hope in discouraged souls. Encouragement doesn't cost us anything but it can mean everything to those that are around us! Let's inspire one another with words of encouragement!

Peace and blessings,

*Pastor T*

Adapted from devotion by George Whitten