

anything to make us feel we are more important than others or more important than the fellowship..

- III. Conclusion: It may seem like we are talking more about ourselves than the strengthening of the fellowship but, as I tried to say in the start of this talk, the fellowship is a compilation of us. I will be able to do what is best for it and for my fellow believers when I am walking with the Lord and honoring His word. But too often in society we expect the fellowship to do right what we individually do wrong. And that explains, to some extent, the intent of these talks at this point.

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### **MESSAGE # 3: FOLLOW PEACE AND HOLINESS**

Biblical Passages: Hebrews 12:14 et al

#### **I. Introduction to the Subject:**

When I was a boy I knew exactly how to agitate my brother...just what would "send him off" and I had a pretty good idea of what would get the best responses from my sisters as well. If you feel sorry for them, it is not necessary, they also knew exactly how to irritate me to a maximum degree and to do it in a hurry. About 90% of the family squabbles would never have happened if we had just not followed the things that aggravated and, instead, the things that made us feel good and helpful one to the other.. Peace is the state of health that exists when the hostilities are settled and holiness is the concept of being set apart for God. The writer of this book tells us to follow, to pursue, to be led by the things that promote peace and holiness in the walk with our fellowship and our combined testimonies. It is a challenge to positive thinking and acting and is something that will greatly aid and strengthen the local fellowship. The problem is that the alternative actions are more appealing to the flesh and somehow are found more convenient for our indulgence. Well, we cannot settle that but we can read the Scripture and prayerfully set our goals on the right course: following peace and holiness.

- II. Discussion: I tried, in this talk, to deal with the practical aspect of this following by noting three areas of stress and suggesting that we learn how to follow peace and holiness in these areas as a key to much of the rest of life.