

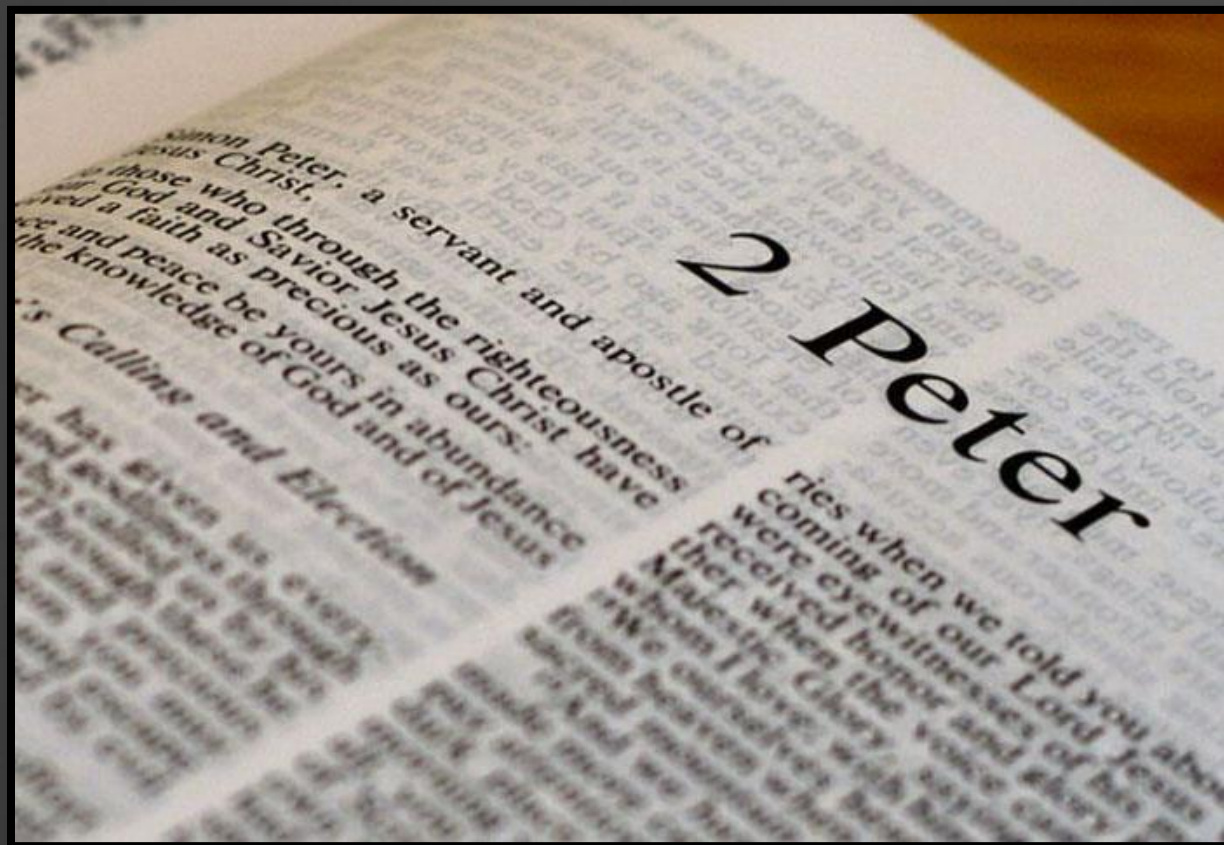
**IF YE DO
THESE
THINGS,
YE SHALL
NEVER
FALL**



Lesson Five

Temperance

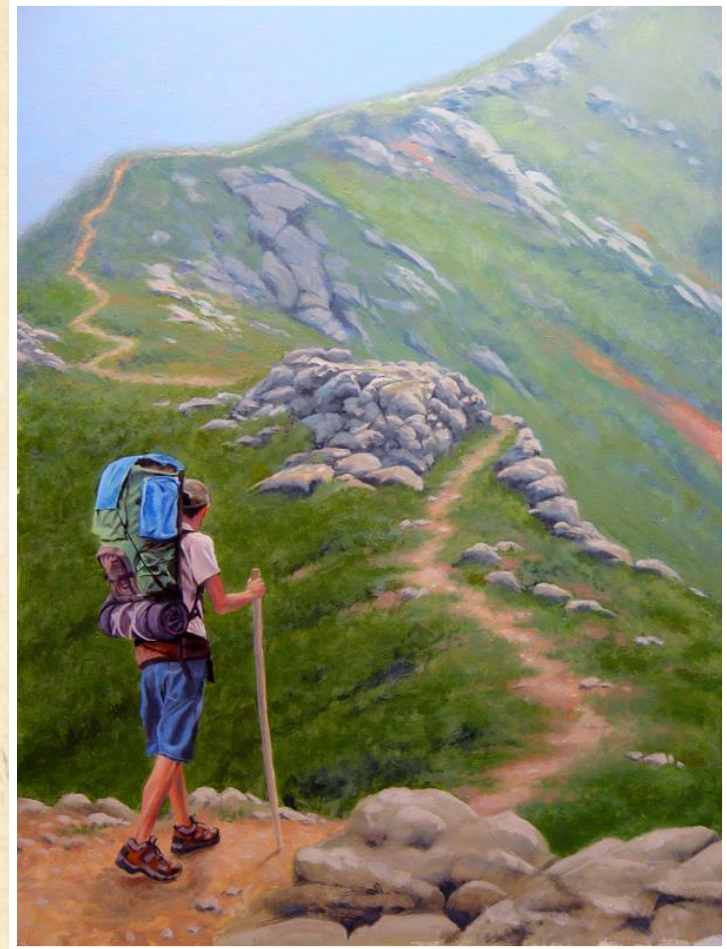
We continue our study
of Peter's dying
message to the church.



This is what we've learned thus far:

2 Peter 1:5-7, 10

- ⁵ And beside this, giving all diligence,
add to your **faith**
virtue;
and to virtue **knowledge;**

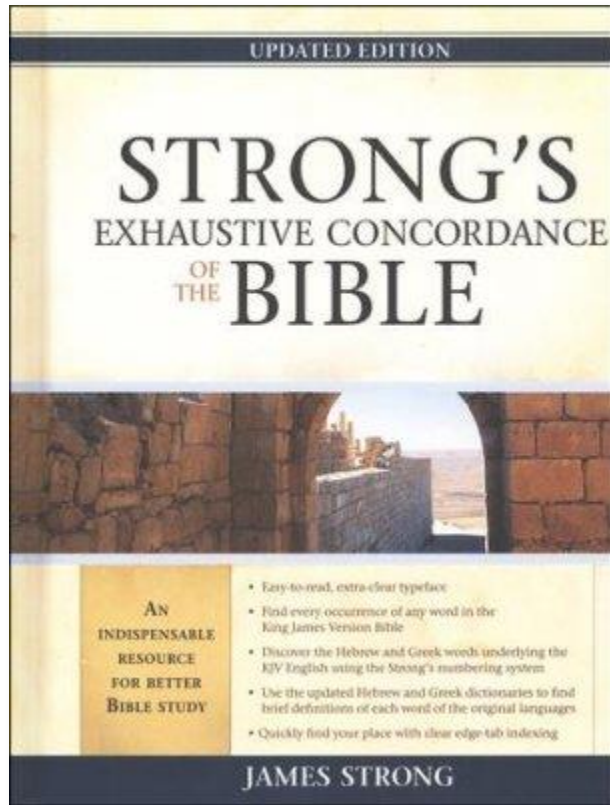


Here is where we are now:

2 Peter 1:5-7, 10

- ⁵ And beside this, giving all diligence,
add to your faith
virtue;
and to virtue knowledge;
- ⁶ And to knowledge **temperance**;

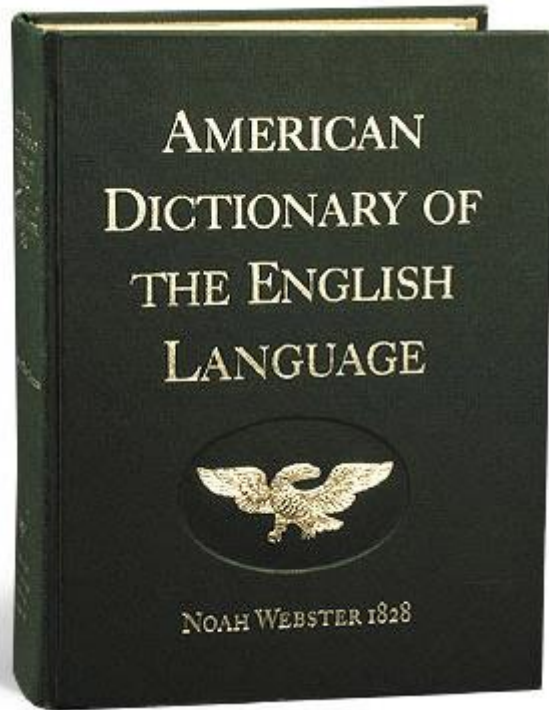




TEMPERANCE

ἐγκράτεια egkrateia

self-control (the virtue of one who masters his desires and passions, esp. his sensual appetites)



TEM'PERANCE

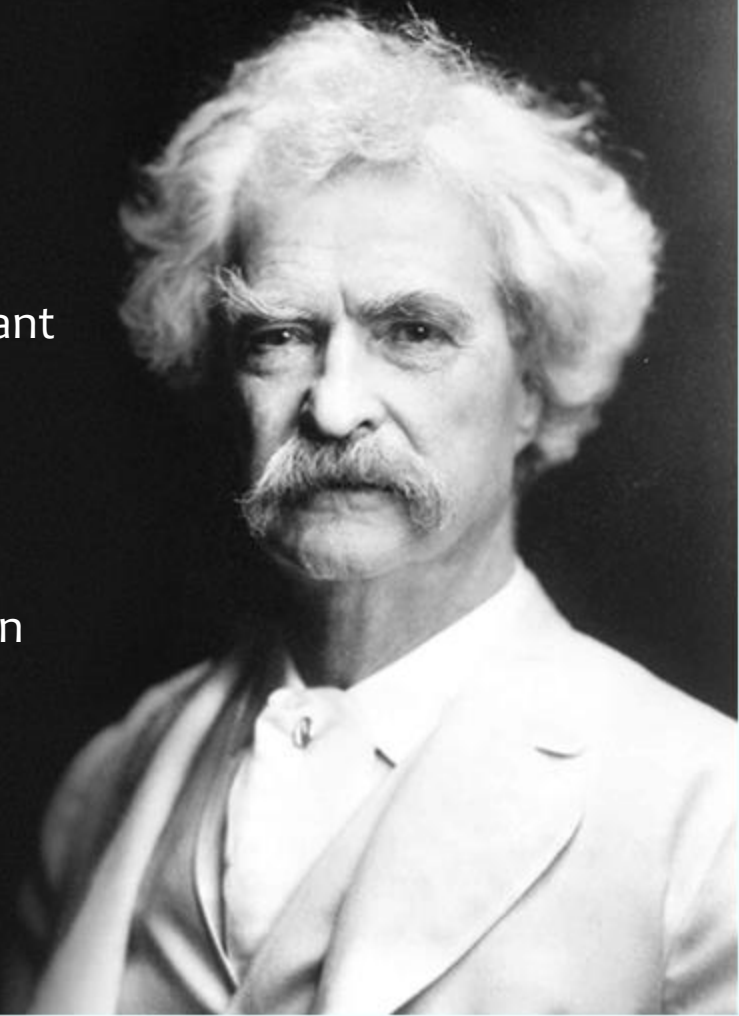
1. Moderation; particularly, habitual **moderation in regard to the indulgence of the natural appetites and passions**; restrained or moderate indulgence; as *temperance* in eating and drinking; *temperance* in the indulgence of joy or mirth.
2. Patience; calmness; sedateness; **moderation of passion.**

There is nothing so bold as an
untested idea.
This is the folly of the novice.



“When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much he had learned in seven years.”

Mark Twain
1835-1910



This is the lesson of the pufferfish:



1 Corinthians 8:1 says,
“Knowledge ...



1 Corinthians 8:1 says,
“Knowledge puffeth up”

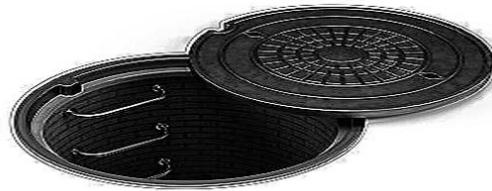




The consequence of a puffed-up mind is entirely predictable:

Proverbs 16:18

Pride goeth before destruction,
and an haughty spirit before a fall.



In order to develop expertise, one must apprentice himself to someone more accomplished than he.



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That is God's way for family, society, and church.



1 Peter 5:5-6

- ⁵ Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- ⁶ Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you in due time:



1 Peter 5:5-6

- ⁵ Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.
- ⁶ Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, that he may exalt you **in due time:**



In due time – when you are ready.

Everyone has potential.
Every new idea sounds good on paper.
People and ideas must be tested.

1 Thessalonians 5:21

²¹ Prove all things;
hold fast that which is good.



Experience builds expertise. When you *apply* the things you've learned into your life, you prove your own work.

Galatians 6:3-4

³ For if a man think himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceiveth himself.

⁴ **But let every man prove his own work,** and then shall he have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another.



Especially in the church, there is great harm in giving someone too much responsibility too soon.

1 Timothy 3:6

- ⁶ Not a novice, lest being lifted up with pride he fall into the condemnation of the devil.



A candidate for office should prove himself fit for the job before he gets the job.

1 Timothy 3:10

¹⁰ **And let these also first be proved;** then let them use the office of a deacon, being found blameless.



You prove your fitness to serve the church by the life you live outside it.

1 Timothy 3:4-5

- 4 One that ruleth well his own house, having his children in subjection with all gravity;
- 5 (For if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?)



Temperance is required of those who serve in the presbytery.

Titus 1:7-8

- ⁷ For a bishop must be blameless, as the steward of God; not selfwilled, not soon angry, not given to wine, no striker, not given to filthy lucre;
- ⁸ But a lover of hospitality, a lover of good men, sober, just, holy, **temperate**;



It takes TEMPERANCE to run a good race for the Lord.

1 Corinthians 9:24-25

- ²⁴ Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize?
So run, that ye may obtain.
- ²⁵ And every man that striveth for the mastery is **temperate in all things**.
Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.



We submit to Christ to the extent we rule our passions.

1 Corinthians 9:26-27

²⁶ I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

²⁷ **But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection:** lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.



Anyone can get lost along the way.

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WHERE DID HE GO?

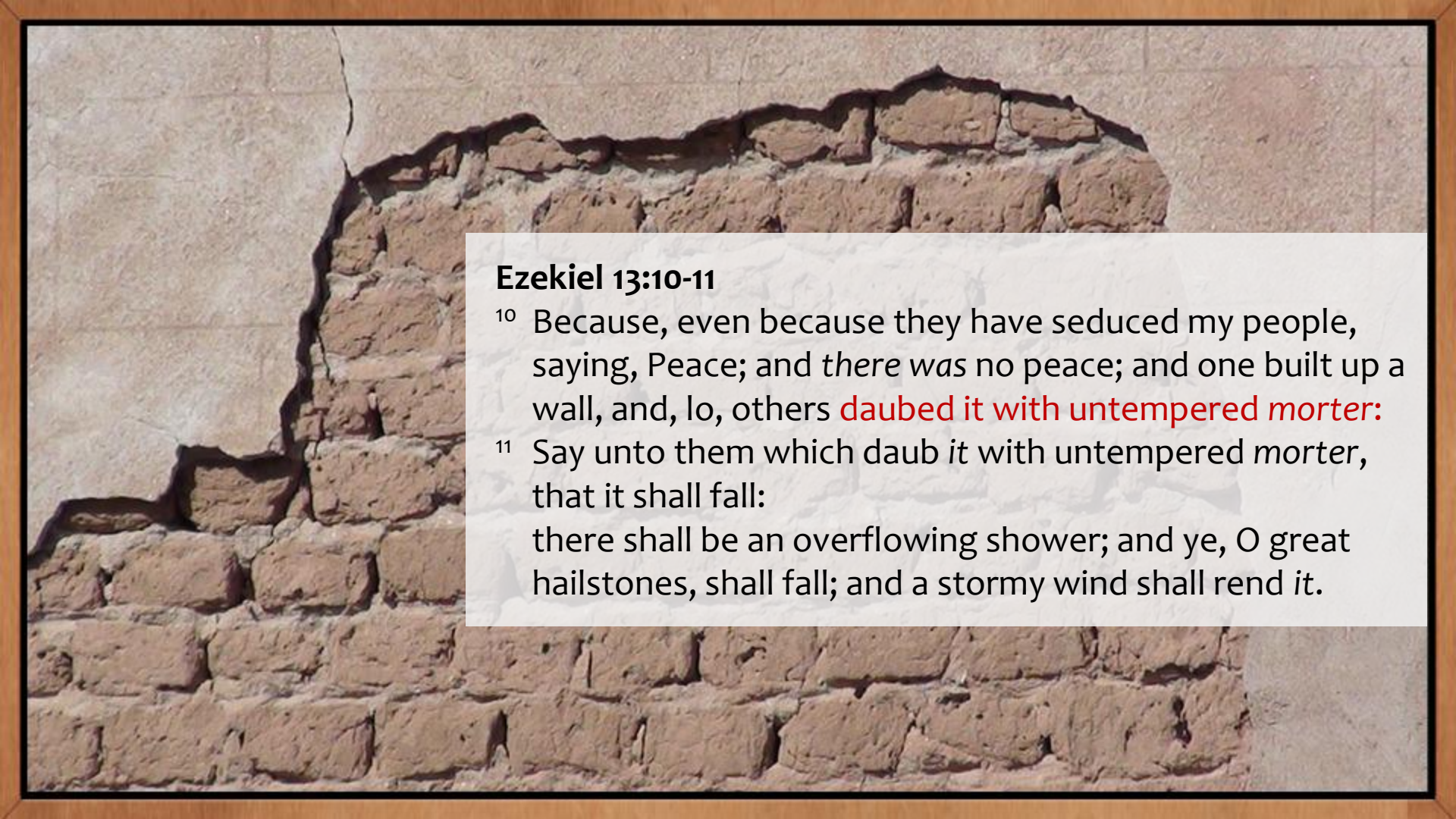


Ezekiel used a metaphor of craftsmen plastering a wall with “untempered mortar” to show the worthless assurances of false prophets:

Ezekiel 22:27-28

- ²⁷ Her princes in the midst thereof are like wolves ravening the prey, to shed blood, *and* to destroy souls, to get dishonest gain.
- ²⁸ And her prophets have **daubed them with untempered mortar**, seeing vanity, and divining lies unto them, saying,
Thus saith the Lord GOD,
when the LORD hath not spoken.






Ezekiel 13:10-11

- ¹⁰ Because, even because they have seduced my people, saying, Peace; and *there was no peace*; and one built up a wall, and, lo, others **daubed it with untempered mortar**:
- ¹¹ Say unto them which daub *it* with untempered mortar, that it shall fall:
there shall be an overflowing shower; and ye, O great hailstones, shall fall; and a stormy wind shall rend *it*.

To appreciate the importance of *keeping* your temper, just spend some time around someone who has lost theirs!

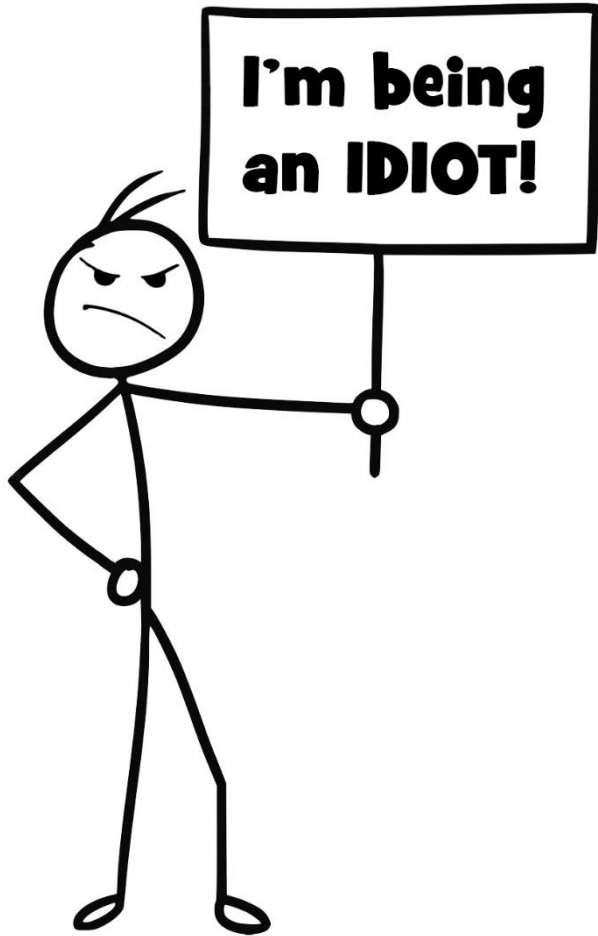


A woman with shoulder-length brown hair, wearing a black sequined top, is shown in profile, shouting with her mouth wide open. She is facing a man with a pained and frustrated expression. The man has short hair and is wearing a dark blue V-neck shirt. The background is a plain, light-colored wall.

I've lost my
temper!

I hope you
find it soon!

Your *temper* is your self-
control, your composure.



No one looks good in the middle of a tantrum.

Proverbs 14:29

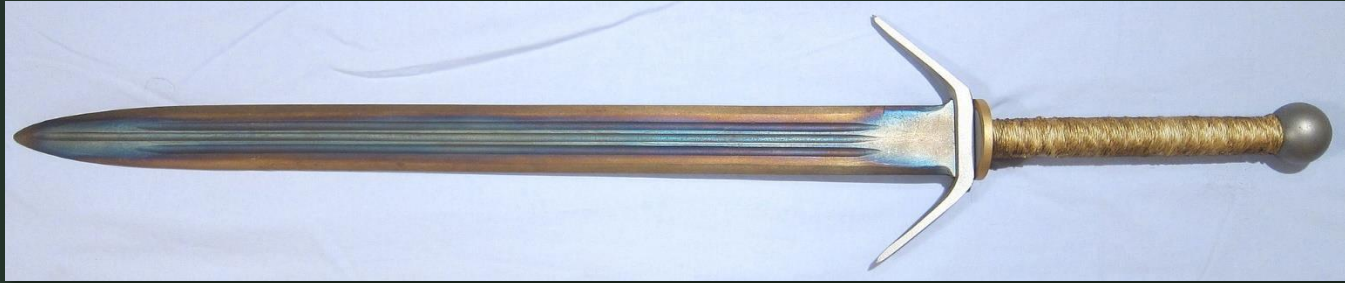
*He that is slow to wrath is of great understanding:
but he that is hasty of spirit exalteth folly.*

Proverbs 25:28

He that *hath* no rule
over his own spirit is
*like a city that is
broken down, and
without walls.*

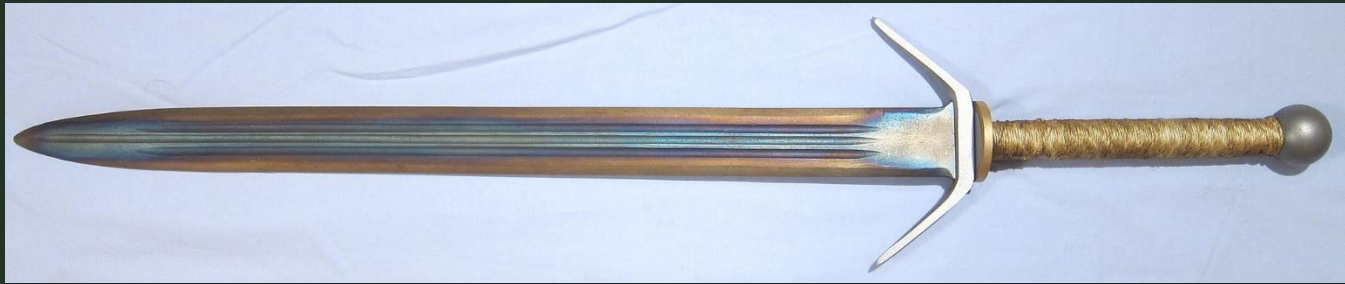


The best sword is made of TEMPERED steel.



“Steel can be too hard and that means that it is also brittle. And brittle is bad. It can crack or even shatter if you hit it with something. So we also soften it up just a little bit. This softening is called "tempering" the sword. And this gives it a little bend and a little flexibility. Now the sword can take a whole lot more use and punishment. It bends rather than breaks. And we do this hardening and tempering with fire.”

www.stormthecastle.com/blacksmithing





The hot steel is beaten into shape with a hammer and anvil.



It is reheated until it glows cherry red, then “quenched” in oil or water. This makes the steel harder, but more brittle.



It is reheated once again to a set temperature. This “tempers” the steel, adding flexibility and shock-absorbency.



Don't be so "strong"
you break in two.
Sometimes it is better
to bend.

A temperate *climate* is
neither hot nor cold.
But being a temperate
Christian doesn't mean
you should be lukewarm!



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you should be lukewarm!

Revelation 3:13-17

- ¹³ He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches.
- ¹⁴ And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;
- ¹⁵ I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.
- ¹⁶ So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.
- ¹⁷ Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

A temperate *climate* is
neither hot nor cold.

But being a temperate
Christian doesn't mean
you should be lukewarm!

1 Corinthians 15:58

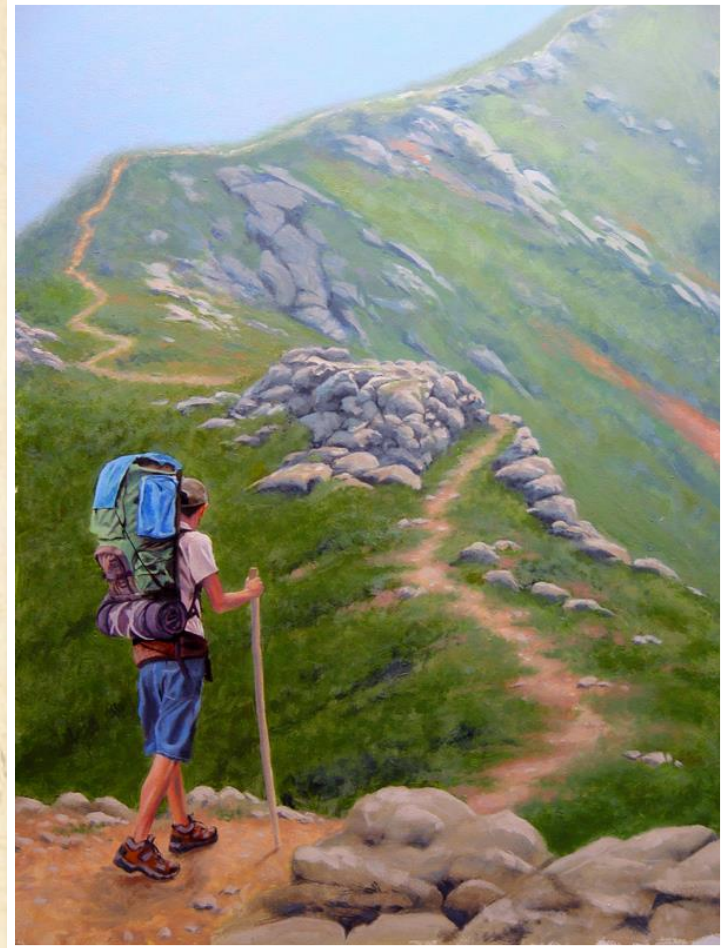
Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye
stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in
the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know
that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

Without **faith**, we cannot please God.

Without works, our faith is dead,
and so we must add **virtue – voluntary
obedience to truth**.

But zeal for good works can be misguided,
and so we must add to virtue, **knowledge**.

But **knowledge** can puff us up. And so we
must add to knowledge, **temperance**.



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Up Next:
To Temperance, Patience



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