**Lessons From The Melodeon At Midway – Part #2**

Andy Sochor – conclusion to part #2



 Then a third melodeon was bought and placed in the church building. But this time, Hibler did not remove it, nor did anyone else. Instead, it remained in the church building to be used in the congregation’s worship until the building was destroyed by fire near the turn of the twentieth century. Hibler’s once ardent opposition eventually waned and the instrument was accepted at Midway.

 This same thing can happen today as well with any number of issues. We must be intolerant of error and firm in our opposition against it. Paul said of the Judaizing teachers, ***“We did not yield in subjection to them for even an hour, so that the truth of the gospel would remain with you”*** (**Galatians 2:5**). We must emulate Paul’s attitude of refusing to compromise the truth.

 Yet it often becomes easy for our opposition to false teachers and those who practice error to become soft. We get tired of fighting the battles so we stop dealing with the issues and, eventually, we become willing to have fellowship with those who were previously marked (**Romans 16:17; 2 Thessalonians 3:6**). We must not allow ourselves to do this. If others are engaging in unauthorized practices, we are told, ***“Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them”*** (**Ephesians 5:11**). If someone is teaching false doctrine, John said, ***“Do not receive him into your house, and do not give him a greeting; for the one who gives him a greeting participates in his evil deeds”*** (**2 John 10-11**). The passage of time does not change the force of these Scriptures. If a teaching or practice must be opposed today, then it must continue to be opposed in the future.

**Conclusion**

 Let us learn these lessons from the melodeon at Midway. Be careful of perceived problems. Ask if they are really problems. Be sure that any action you take in correction or improvement is according to the New Testament pattern. Be watchful against apostasy as well. It will never come immediately; instead it is gradual, often creeping in when we do not expect it. Finally, always stand for the truth. Be consistent and steadfast. As Paul told Timothy, ***“Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus”*** (**2 Timothy 1:13**).