

“Brass Tacks”

by John Clark

There is an old American saying, **“Let’s get down to brass tacks.”** It dates from the nineteenth century, before the day of the department store. In the dry goods stores of that day, the measurement of cloth was done by means of brass tacks set at the edge of the counter and spaced about a yard apart. This method of getting exact measurements is the origin of saying, “Let’s get down to brass tacks.” It means to talk about things in plain terms that are based on facts.

Let’s get down to brass tacks, brethren! We all find time to do what is important to us. Even at our busiest, we seem to find time to go and do what we really want to. One of the best ways to determine what means a lot to a person is to simply be observant. If we do not have time to read the Bible, pray, write a note, call a friend, worship God, assemble with the brethren, then these are not as important as some other things that we make time for. Wasn’t this point made unmistakably clear by Jesus? *“For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also”* (Matthew 6:21).

EDITOR’S NOTE: How appropriate to get to **the bottom of a matter** and tell things as they truly are! America has a real problem today with accepting **facts** over **feelings!** And to make matters worse, Americans don’t like to be told that they have a problem with it! But ignoring the problem will not make it go away. We must recognize the importance of an objective standard (God’s Word), seek it out, and then do it! Do not be swayed by the modern thinking of today. It is not sound nor biblical. So let’s get down to brass tacks today — about a lot of things! Someone once said, “Facts are stubborn things.” Yes, and they cannot be argued with and remain rational. Remember that Jesus did not condone the popular thinking of His day, either religiously or politically! He was from God, spoke the Father’s message, and was severely persecuted from all sides because of it. We are to follow His footsteps, 1 Peter 2:25.

343601