



Sunday, December 23, 2018

A QUIET COMMITMENT:

- QUIET your mind and soul before the LORD — *“Be still, and know that I am God”* (Psalm 46:10)
- COMMIT to obedience: *Commit* to doing whatever God will say to you in this message — *“to obey is better than sacrifice”* (1 Samuel 15:22)

I. The WEALTH of the Believer (1:1-3:21)

A. The Christian and His RICHES (1:3-23)

B. The Christian and His RECONCILIATION (2:1-22)

When we became reconciled to God at salvation, He placed within us a new nature. This is the exchange that took place. We became His children as His Spirit came to dwell within us. Our old relationship, of animosity and wickedness towards God, was exchanged for this new relationship of oneness with God.

1. God brings about a SAVING UNION (1-10)

a. The Christian’s PAST PROBLEM—SIN (1-3)

Our *past* is an ugly picture darkened with death, disobedience, depravity and doom. It is hopeless and filled with the fleshly pursuit of self. Being *“dead in trespasses and sin”* speaks of spiritual *“death”*—spiritual separation from God (Isaiah 59:2).

b. The Christian's **PRESENT**—**SALVATION** (4-6)

i. You are a recipient of God's **LOVE**—**LOVED** (4)

This "*mercy*" is the rescue from a miserable, hopeless condition. One who is in a position of abundance/ sufficiency rescuing one in a position of great need. It is not receiving the punishment that we deserve.

Psalm 103:11-12 For as the heaven is high above the earth, so great is **His** mercy toward them that fear **Him**. **12** As far as the east is from the west, so far hath **He** removed our transgressions from us.

Titus 3:5-6 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to **His** mercy **He** saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the **Holy Ghost**; **6** Which **He** shed on us abundantly through **Jesus Christ** our **Saviour**;

1 Peter 1:3 Blessed *be* the **God** and **Father** of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, which according to **His** abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of **Jesus Christ** from the dead,

The *present state* of the believer is one that is characterized by infinite sacrificial love. As a believer, **you are the recipient of God's love**.

ii. You are a recipient of God's **GRACE**—**RESURRECTED** (5)

Colossians 2:12-13 Buried with **Him** in baptism, wherein also ye are risen with **Him** through the faith of the operation of **God**, **Who** hath raised **Him** from the dead. **13** And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath **He** quickened together with **Him**, having forgiven you all trespasses;

The *present state* of the believer is one that is characterized by God’s mighty power in your resurrection from the dead. As a believer, **you are the recipient of God’s grace.**

iii. You are recipient of God’s HONOR—EXALTED (6)

Philippians 3:20-21 For our conversation [*citizenship*] is in heaven; from whence also we look for the **Saviour**, the **Lord Jesus Christ: 21 Who** shall change our vile body, that it may be fashioned like unto **His** glorious body, according to the working whereby **He** is able even to subdue all things unto **Himself**.

Colossians 3:1-2 If [*since*] ye then be risen with **Christ**, seek those things which are above, where **Christ** sitteth on the right hand of **God. 2** Set your affection on things above, not on things on the earth.

The *present state* of the believer is one that is characterized by God’s mighty power in your exaltation being seated with Christ. As a believer, **you are the recipient of God’s honor.**



Our WORTHY WALK contains an honest understanding of our RECONCILIATION to God. We were spiritually “*dead in our trespasses and sins*” and now have spiritual life being saved “*by grace through faith*” in the finished work of Jesus Christ on our behalf. As recipients of God’s love, mercy, and grace let us “*set our affections above*” and live as citizens of heaven.

What is my next step? Please consider doing the questions on the back of this page.

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What Is My Next Step?

Hearing — Giving *attention* to God's Word with the intent to obey it — James 1:21-25

Doing — Making *application* of God's Word to be more like Christ — Eph. 4:22-24

Date: _____ Text: _____ Speaker: _____

1. What did God show **me** that **I** must confess and forsake because it does not reflect Christ and hurts **my** relationship with Him and others? (***Put OFF SIN***)
2. What did God show **me** about Himself in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What is He like?
 - b. What does He like?
 - c. What does He dislike?
3. What does God say to me in this text? (***Renew your mind***)
 - a. What command to obey?
 - b. What promise to claim?
 - c. What principle to apply (*If I do _____, then God will do _____*)?
 - d. What example to follow?
4. What verse(s) should **I** memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make **my** change lasting? (***Renew your mind***)
5. In light of what **I** have heard from God, ... (***Put ON CHRIST***)
 - a. What character quality of Jesus must **I** demonstrate *with God's help* this week?
 - b. In what situations will **I** most likely be tempted not to respond in a Christ-like way?
 - c. How can **I** get ready for those situations? (*If I don't have a plan for change, it probably won't happen.*)



OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD,
Sacrificially love others
—ALL to the GLORY of GOD!