



Sunday, March 10, 2019

MAKE 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)
- C. The Christian and His **REVELATION** (3:1-21)

1. What was **REVEALED** (1-13)

- a. The **PRISONER** and His **REALITY** (1)
- b. The **PREACHER** and His **REVELATION** (2-6)
- c. The **PASTOR** and His **RESPONSIBILITY** (7-13)

Paul was entrusted with this invaluable revelation of the “*mystery*” that through Christ, Jew and Gentile, hostile enemies would be brought together in fellowship and harmony being reconciled. He was given the responsibility to be a “*light to the Gentiles*,” sharing with them the “*unsearchable riches of Christ*” so that “*all men [might] see*” God’s plan regarding this “*mystery*.” Here in these verses we see the marks of this faithful servant of God.

i. He **DEMONSTRATES** a **HUMBLE PERSPECTIVE** (7-9)

Paul was a faithful servant with a **MISSION PERSPECTIVE** that was rooted in humility and Christ's preeminence (Php 1:21).

ii. He is **DIRECTED** by a **HEAVENLY PURPOSE** (10-11)

Our responsibility is to be an influence in our Jerusalem. That we would help "*all men see*" God's plan in the unfolding of His mystery.

a) The **DIVERSITY** of **GOD'S WISDOM** (10b)

This "*manifold wisdom*" speaks of the exquisite beauty and complex variety of God's wisdom displayed His new creation—the Church.

b) The **DISPLAY** of **GOD'S WISDOM** (10a)

The Church exists to glorify God. Through both the transformation of the individual from heathen to holy as well as the harmony within the diverse body, the Church displays this "*manifold wisdom of God.*"

1. In the **HOLINESS** of the **INDIVIDUAL**

Ephesians 2:5-7 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us [*made us alive*] together with **Christ**, (by grace ye are saved;) **6** And hath raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in heavenly *places* in **Christ Jesus**: **7** That in the ages to come **He** might shew the exceeding [*surpassing/ immeasurable*] riches of **His** grace in *His* kindness [*gentleness*] toward us through **Christ Jesus**.

1 Peter 1:15-16 But as **He** which hath called you is holy [*set apart from sin*], so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; **16** Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

2. In the **HARMONY** of the **BODY**

1 Corinthians 12:12-13 For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also *is Christ*. **13** For by one **Spirit** are we all baptized into one body, whether *we be* Jews or Gentiles, whether *we be* bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one **Spirit**.

1 Corinthians 1:10 Now I beseech [*plead with*] you, brethren, by the name of our **Lord Jesus Christ**, that ye all speak [*agree*] the same thing, and *that* there be no divisions among you; but *that* ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind and in the same judgment.

c) The **DETERMINATION** of **GOD'S WISDOM** (11)

Galatians 4:4-5 But when the fulness of the time was come, **God** sent forth **His Son**, made of a woman, made under the law, **5** To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.

iii. He **DEMONSTRATES** our **HOPEFUL PRIVILEGE** (12-13)

Paul reminds us of our hopeful privileges that we have in Christ. To be “hopeful” is to have a confident expectation.

a) Our **CONFIDENT ACCESS** (12)

Romans 5:2 By **Whom** also we have access by faith into this grace wherein we stand, and rejoice in hope [*confidence*] of the glory of **God**.

b) Our **COURAGE** in **AFFLICTION** (13)

Romans 8:18 For I reckon that the sufferings of this present time *are* not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us.



Our **WORTHY WALK** is rooted in **HUMILITY** as we seek to serve God in fulfilling our **RESPONSIBILITY** as His ministers. Faithful service is also marked by humility being **DIRECTED** by a **HEAVENLY PURPOSE** displaying the “*manifold wisdom of God.*” Furthermore, he reminds us of our **HOPEFUL PRIVILEGES** in Christ, that we have **CONFIDENT** of **ACCESS** but also **COURAGE** in the face of **AFFLICTION**.

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

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!