



Sunday, March 24, 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)
 2. What was to be **REALIZED** (14-21)

In the first half of this chapter Paul spells out what had been **REVEALED** to him regarding the *“mystery”*—the reconciliation of Jew and Gentile within the Church. In the continuation of his prayer he seeks to help these saints **REALIZE** the transcendent truth of God’s love. This is done through the spiritual strengthening of the believer as they grow in their understanding of *“the love of God”* and are changed by it as they are *“filled with all the fulness of God.”*

a. Paul’s **PRAYER** (14-19)

Paul’s Prayer contains characteristics that reveal his **PRACTICE** but also his **PURPOSE**. He shows us how to pray and to what end that he is praying.

Whereas the first prayer was for being ENLIGHTENED with a deeper understanding of our riches in Christ, here Paul prays for the ENABLING of the saint being moved into action as he grasps the immeasurable love of Christ.

i. His PRACTICE in Praying—SURRENDER (14-16a)

His practice is marked by both an ATTITUDE and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT. He comes before God's throne of grace in humility, worshipping His mighty God as he acknowledges what God has done and what He can do.

a) His ATTITUDE of SUBMISSION (14a)

Our posture in prayer is a matter of the heart. It is a heart that is bended toward the Father, seeking His will and His glory—*"not my will but Thine be done."*



Jeremiah 33:2-3 “Thus saith the LORD the maker thereof, the LORD that formed it, to establish it; the LORD is His name; 3 ‘Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty [*unsearchable*] things, which thou knowest not.’

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

James 5:16 Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed. The effectual fervent [*energized / Spirit filled*] prayer of a righteous man availeth much [*powerful / effective*].

b) His AUDIENCE in SUPPLICATION (14b)

Matthew 6:9 After this manner therefore pray ye: ‘Our **Father** which art in heaven, Hallowed be **Thy** name.

John 16:23 And in that day ye shall ask **Me** nothing. Verily, verily, I say unto you, Whatsoever ye shall ask the **Father** in **My** name, **He** will give it you.

John 14:13-14 And whatsoever ye shall ask in **My** name [*character / the heart and nature of Christ*], that will I do, that the **Father** may be glorified [*magnified*] in the **Son**. **14** If ye shall ask any thing in **My** name, I will do *it*.

c) He **ACKNOWLEDGES** God as **SOVEREIGN** (15)

d) He **ACKNOWLEDGES** God's **SUFFICIENCY** (16a)

"Thou art coming to a King, large petitions with thee bring; For His grace and power are such, none can ever ask too much."—John Newton

The "*glory*" of God speaks of His revealed perfections or attributes. Consider the glorious attributes that God has already spoken of.

2 Corinthians 3:5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think any thing as of ourselves; but our sufficiency is of **God**;

John 15:5 **I AM** the vine, ye *are* the branches: He that abideth in **Me**, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without **Me** ye can do nothing.



Our **WORTHY WALK** is characterized by a life of **PRAYER** that is characterized by attitudes of **SUBMISSION** and **SUPPLICATION** while acknowledging God's **SUFFICIENCY**. It is coming before God's throne of grace with an attitude of reverence, understanding Who He is and acknowledging what He has done and what he can do.

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!