



Sunday, April 14, 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)
 - a. Paul’s **PRAYER** (14-19)

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

His prayer is marked by an **ATTITUDE** of **SUBMISSION** as he approaches his heavenly Father **ACKNOWLEDGING** His **SOVEREIGNTY** and **SUFFICIENCY**. 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.

ii. His **PURPOSE** in Praying—**STRENGTH** (16-19)

He prays, not only with the right **PERSPECTIVE**, but also with **PURPOSE**. He realizes that a Christian must have spiritual strength in order to faithfully serve and represent their Master, Jesus. In order for this to be a reality, there are some things that are prerequisite.

- a) The Christian’s **RENEWING**—**Surrender** (16b)
 - 1) He does not **STIFLE** the Spirit of God
 - 2) He keeps in **STEP** with the Spirit of God
 - 3) He diligently **STUDIES** the Word of God

iii. The Christian is RULED—Submission (17a)

a) Christ DWELLING in my heart

The simple question: “Does Christ feel completely at home in my heart / life?”

1) By faith the indwelling of Christ is a REALITY

Romans 8:9-11 But ye are not in the flesh, but in the **Spirit**, if so be that the **Spirit** of **God** dwell in you. Now if any man have not the **Spirit** of **Christ**, he is none of **His**. **10** And if **Christ** be in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the **Spirit** *is* life because of righteousness. **11** But if the **Spirit** of **Him** that raised up **Jesus** from the dead dwell in you, **He** that raised up **Christ** from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by **His Spirit** that dwelleth in you.

Colossians 1:27 To whom **God** would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ** in you, the hope of glory:

2) By faith the indwelling of Christ is REVEALED

John 14:23 **Jesus** answered and said unto him [*Judas, not Iscariot*], “If a man love **Me**, he will keep **My** words: and **My Father** will love him, and **We** will come unto him, and make **Our** abode with him.

John 15:4 Abide in **Me**, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in **Me**.

Habakkuk 1:13 “*Thou art of purer eyes than to behold evil, and canst not look on iniquity: ...*”

b) Christ DEALING with my heart

Book: “My Heart Christ’s Home” by Robert Munger.

1) The STUDY—My MIND

2 Corinthians 10:5 Casting down imaginations [*deceptive thoughts*], and every high thing [*fortresses of thought*] that exalteth itself [*something raised up in pride*] against the knowledge of **God**, and bringing into captivity [*bring under submission*] every thought to the obedience of **Christ**;

Cf. Philippians 4:8

2) The DINING Room—My DESIRES

1 John 2:16 For all that *is* in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the **Father**, but is of the world.

Cf. Colossians 3:2; Psalm 37:4

3) The LIVING Room—My FELLOWSHIP

John 15:4 Abide in **Me**, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in **Me**.

John 15:7 If ye abide in **Me**, and **My** words abide in you, ye shall ask what ye will, and it shall be done unto you.

4) The WORKROOM—My TALENTS

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.

Philippians 2:13 For it is **God** which worketh in you both to will [*desire*] and [*the power*] to do of *His* good pleasure [*perfect will*].

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

5) The HALL Closet—My HIDDEN SIN

Proverbs 28:13 He that covereth his sins [*refusal to admit guilt*] shall not prosper: but whoso confesseth [*acknowledge my sin*] and forsaketh [*turn from my sin*] *them* shall have mercy.

My Prayer: Psaln 139:23-24 Search [*examine intimately*] me, O **God**, and know my heart: try me, and know my thoughts: **24** And see if *there be any wicked* [*idolitous*] way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

My Practice: 1Jn 1:9 If we confess our sins, **He** is faithful and just to forgive us *our* sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Cf. Micah 7:18



Our WORTHY WALK is undergirded by SPIRITUAL STRENGTH marked by a life that is ruled by Christ being in submission to Him. It is understanding the reality of His indwelling presence that leads to the revealing of His indwelling presence in my daily live. This is done as I submit to Christ's work of dealing with my heart.

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!