



Sunday, April 28, 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)

- i. His **PRACTICE** in Praying—**SURRENDER** (14-16a)
- ii. His **PURPOSE** in Praying—**STRENGTH** (16-19)
  - d) The Christian’s **REALITY**—Sacrifice (18-19a)
  - e) The Christian’s **RULING**—Submission (19b)

The Christian’s reality displays the ruling of God in our submission. To *“know the love of Christ”* leads to being *“filled with all the fulness of God.”*

### 1. DEVOTION through submission

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.

Our abiding in Christ displays our devotion through submission which is uncompromising obedience to our Master Jesus.

Colossians 3:23 And whatsoever ye do, do *it* heartily, as to the **Lord**, and not unto men;

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Cf. Matthew 26:39; Hebrews 10:7; Philippians 2:8

### 2. DOMINATION by His righteous ruling

“...that ye might be filled.” (Eph 3:19) – The Greek word, “plerōō” (play-ro’-o) translated, “filled” carries the idea of control, being dominated. It is “filled” to the degree of causing a response—bringing a change.

Illustration: “filled with anger / joy, etc.” (cf. John 16:6; Acts 5:17-18; Romans 1:29).

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.

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### 3. DISPLAYING the likeness of Christ

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Matthew 5:48 Be ye therefore perfect [*spiritually mature*], even as your **Father** which is in heaven is perfect.

Colossians 2:9 For in **Him** [*Jesus*] dwelleth all the fulness of the **Godhead** bodily.

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Psalms 17:15 As for me [*David*], I will behold [*gaze / meditated upon*] **Thy** face in righteousness: I shall be satisfied, when I awake, with **Thy** likeness.

2 Corinthians 3:18 But we all, with open face [*unobstructed view*] beholding as in a glass the glory of the **Lord**, are changed [*metamorphosis*] into the same image from glory to glory, even as by the **Spirit** of the **Lord**.

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- (a) The Christian's **RENEWING**—Surrender (16b)
    - (i) He does not **STIFLE** the **SPIRIT** of **GOD** (1Thessalonians 5:19 / Ephesians 4:30)
    - (ii) He keeps in **STEP** with the **SPIRIT** of **GOD** (Galatians 5:16)
    - (iii) He diligently **STUDIES** the **WORD** of **GOD** (1 Timothy 4:15-16)
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- (b) The Christian's **RIGHTEOUSNESS**—Sanctification (17a)
    - (i) **MY PRAYER:** "Search me, O God" (Psalm 139:23-24)
    - (ii) **MY PRACTICE:** Confession & Forsaking (1 John 1:9; Proverbs 28:13)
    - (iii) **MY PERSPECTIVE:** God delights in mercy (Micah 7:18; Psalm 86:5)
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- (c) The Christian's **ROOTS**—Stability (17b)
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- (d) The Christian's **REALITY**—Sacrifice (18-19a)

A Christian that is properly rooted in love will naturally lead to a new reality of living of life of loving service—a life of supreme and sacrificial love. A comprehension of this transforming truth that is evidenced in Christ likeness. **To know this kind of love is to be known by this kind of love.** (cf. John 13:34-35)

- (e) The Christian's **RULING**—Submission (19b)

A life that is ruled by God—a virtuous life—is a life that makes the love of God attractive to others. It is a life that displays the characteristics of God in Christ-likeness (Titus 2:10 – *"adorn the doctrine of God"*).

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Our worthy walk is a life that is **RULED BY GOD**. It is a life of **DEVOTION** as we *"abide in Christ."* It is a life **DOMINATED** by God's righteous ruling which **DISPLAYS THE LIKENESS OF CHRIST** to the world in which we live. **IT IS A LIFE OF SPIRITUAL STRENGTH.**

**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!