



Sunday, May 19, 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)

In the first 3 chapters, Paul is answering the question: “What it is to be a Christian?” He describes our wealth—ultimately, what we have in Christ. Through these chapters we have sought to grow in our understanding of the greatness of our God—Who He is—and in turn Who He is to me.

II. The **WALK** of the Believer (4:1-6:9)

Isaiah 55:10-11 For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater: **11** So shall **My** Word be that goeth forth out of **My** mouth: it shall not return unto **Me** void [*empty or useless*], but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

In the first 3 chapters, Paul has defined our **BELIEFS** as a Christian and now he will define our **BEHAVIOR**. He now turns from **DOCTRINE** to **DUTY**. We note that our understanding of the **PRINCIPLES** of **GOD’S WORD** will lead to the **PRACTICE** of **GOD’S WAYS**.

A. Walk WORTHY (4:1)

1. The EXPLANATION of the Worthy Walk

“...the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you...” (Eph 4:1) – Note Paul’s perspective: he considers himself to be “the prisoner of Jesus Christ.” He operates from God’s perspective of providence.

“beseech you” – Paul pleads with his audience to engage their minds as they consider how God has blessed them and respond in grateful obedience.

Romans 12:1-2 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. 2 And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed [changed into something useful] by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

“...that you walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,” (Eph 4:1) – To “walk worthy” of your calling is to live in such a way that what we were saved for and the way we live are in balance—both having equal weight.

This “calling” is an invitation for a purpose. God “called” us to salvation to be one of His saints.

Philippians 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

This is the “high calling of God in Christ Jesus” and therefore we are to respond obediently to live a saint-like life.

2. The EXHORTATION to Walk Worthy

“I therefore, ...” (Eph 4:1) – A good Biblical hermeneutic (rule of interpreting Scripture) is that when you see this word, “therefore,” look to see what it is there for.

2 Timothy 3:16-17 All scripture *is* given by inspiration of **God**, and *is* profitable [*beneficial*] for doctrine [*teaching what is truth*], for reproof [*conviction of sin / what is wrong*], for correction [*how to make the wrong right*], for instruction in righteousness [*how to stay right*]: **17** That the man of **God** may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

Colossians 1:9-10 For this cause we also, since the day we heard *it*, do not cease to pray for you, and to desire that ye might be filled with the knowledge of **His** will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; **10** That ye [*leads to*] might walk worthy of the **Lord** unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of **God**;

a. Because of your **RICHES** in Christ (Ephesians 1)

b. Because of your **RECONCILIATION** to Christ (Ephesians 2)

c. Because of your **REVELATION** of Christ's love (Ephesians 3)



Our **WORTHY WALK** is undergirded by our **RICHES** in Christ, our **RECONCILIATION** to Christ, and our **REVELATION** of Christ's love. We see how a transforming understanding of these **DOCTRINAL TRUTHS** lead to a lifestyle of **DEVOTION** to God. Knowing the **PRINCIPLES** of **GOD'S WORD** leads to living in **PRACTICE** of **GOD'S WAYS**.

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!