

Sunday, June 9, 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)

Our goal is to consider "Our Worthy Walk" and seek to grow in our understanding of how to "Walk with the Lord to the praise of His glory."

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

Here in chapter 4 Paul moves into the practical portion of his letter to the saints at Ephesus. 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)

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.

B. Walk in UNITY (4:2-6)

Paul commands us to WALK WORTHY, first, by WALKING IN UNITY. He explains that to "walk worthy," is simply to live like Jesus. It is a life marked by Christlikeness.

C. Walk in DIVERSITY (4:7-10)

<u>1 Corinthians 1:10</u> Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our **Lord Jesus** Christ, that ye all speak 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.

Paul's pleading is <u>not</u> for the removal of DIVERSITY but the removal of DIVISION. He desires that they serve the Lord in harmony, being likeminded/ in agreement in doctrine and practice in order to accomplish their Biblical mission.

1. GIFTS Given—Our UNITY in <u>DIVERSITY</u> (8)

Our unity speaks of like-mindedness in direction and purpose yet it does not mean "sameness." The beauty of our unity within the Church is best displayed in a <u>UNIFIED DIVERSITY</u>. This diversity when <u>DISPLAYED IN <u>HUMILITY</u> will promote unity within the body of Christ.</u>

<u>Psalm 68:18</u> Thou hast ascended on high, Thou hast led captivity captive: Thou hast received gifts for men; yea, *for* the rebellious also, that the <u>LORD God</u> might dwell *among them*.

Cf. 1 Corinthians 12

The "more excellent way" of <u>1Co 12:31</u> is the way of love in <u>1Co 13:4-8</u>. Paul is emphasizing the fact that the gift is not what is most important but how you use the gift.

2. GRACE Given—Our DIVERSITY with HUMILITY (7, 9-10)

a. Humility EXPECTED (7)

"is given grace" (Eph_4:7) - This Greek word translated, "grace" is the word
"charis." It speaks of that which causes joy & pleasure. It is favor displayed without
expectation of return. But is also the divine influence upon the heart and its
reflection in the life (Strongs). It is used 156 times in the NT.

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

"...according to the measure of the gift of Christ." (Eph 4:7) – God gives us the necessary grace—His divine help—to each believer in proportion to the measure of Christ's gift of salvation. It is an endless supply of grace just as the gift of salvation is without measure.

<u>2 Corinthians 9:8</u> And God *is* able to make <u>all</u> grace abound toward you; that ye, <u>always</u> having <u>all</u> sufficiency in <u>all</u> things, may abound to <u>every</u> good work:

<u>James 4:6</u> But **He** giveth more [and more] grace. Wherefore **He** saith, **God** resisteth [to lay siege against] the proud [the one insisting on his own way], but giveth grace unto the humble [the one submitting to God's way].

<u>Proverbs 16:5</u> Every one *that is* proud in heart *is* an abomination to the LORD: *though* hand *join* in hand, he shall not be unpunished.

But "God gives more grace. God gives grace to the humble."

The <u>Premise</u> of Humility—"God gives grace to the humble" (<u>Jas 4:6</u>)

The <u>PICTURE</u> of Humility—(<u>Jas 4:7-9</u>)

The <u>PROMISE</u> of Humility—"He will lift you up" (<u>Jas 4:10</u>)

b. Humility EXAMPLED (9-10)



Our WORTHY WALK is explained, second, by WALKING IN DIVERSITY. God has given each of us both GIFTS, to be used in our serving Him within the Church, and GRACE in using those

gifts. The beauty of our unity within the Church is best displayed in a UNIFIED DIVERSITY as we SERVE OTHERS, in HUMILITY.

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?

_		_	Giving <i>attention</i> to God's Word with the intent to obey it – James 1:21-25 Making <i>application</i> of God's Word to be more like Christ – Eph. 4:22-24				
Dat	e:	Text:		Speake	er:		
1.	<u>not</u>		ow me that I mus and hurts my rel				
2.	a. b.	at did God sho What is He lik What does Ho What does Ho	e like?	nself in t	his text? (<i>Rene</i> v	v your mind)	
3.	a.	What comma	•	·	•)?	
	d.	What exampl	e to follow?				
4.	What verse(s) should I memorize and meditate upon through-out this week to help make my change lasting? (<i>Renew your mind</i>)						
5.	In li a.	_	nave heard from er quality of Jes		· —		
	b.	In what situat Christ-like wa	tions will I most y?	likely be	tempted <u>not</u> to	respond in a	
	C.	How can I get	ready for those	situatio	ns? (If I don't ho	ave a plan for	



change, it probably won't happen.)

OUR MISSION: Supremely love GOD, Sacrificially love others —ALL to the GLORY of GOD!