



Sunday, November 17, 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)

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

A. Walk **WORTHY—VERTICALLY** before **GOD** (4:1-32)

B. Walk **WORTHY—HORIZONTALLY** toward **OTHERS** (5:1-6:9)

1. Walk in **LOVE DISPLAYING** the **LOVE** of **CHRIST** (5:1-2)

2. Walk in **LIGHT REFLECTING** the **LIGHT** of **CHRIST** (5:3-14)

Paul turns to our **INFLUENCE**. Following his call for us to love like our heavenly Father by imitating the sacrificial love of our Savior, we are now called upon to walk in light in the way that we love.

a. The **DARKNESS** of the **WORLD** (3-6)

We must **REFRAIN** from living like the darkened world around us but instead, live with **SELF-CONTROL**, **CONTENTMENT**, and engage in **GODLY CONVERSATION**.

b. The **LIGHT** of **CHRIST** (7-14)

Paul now turns from **DARKNESS** to **LIGHT**. He spoke of the **DARKNESS OF THE WORLD** and now he turns to the **LIGHT OF CHRIST**.

i. Paul gives the **BELIEVER** a **REMINDER** (7-10)

He reminded us of **WHO WE WERE** and will now remind us of **WHO WE ARE**.

ii. Paul speaks of the BELIEVER'S RESPONSIBILITY (11-14)

Our greatest influence as “salt” and “light” comes from faithfully living out the light of God’s Word in our Jerusalem. It is through our faithful response to the ministry of God’s Word as we live out these truths in the normal rhythms of life. This is doing the “work of the ministry” for which we are equipped to do through the ministry of God’s Word.

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 [equipped fully] unto all good works.

a) The COMMAND against CO-PARTICIPATION (11a)

1 Corinthians 5:11 But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat.

b) The COMMISSION as AGENTS of CONVICTION—LIVE the WORD OF TRUTH (11b)

“...but rather reprove them.” (Eph 5:11) – This word “reprove” speaks of exposing something. It carries the idea of conviction through rebuke.

Through a 2 Timothy 3:16-17 life, a believer lives as an AGENT OF CONVICTION living a life of lighted truth in a Jerusalem of darkened deception. Their life then exposes WHAT IS WRONG bringing CONVICTION.

c) The CONVERSATION of the ACTS of CORRUPTION (12)

Proverbs 6:23 For the Commandment is a lamp [for guidance]; and the Law is light; and reproofs [corrections] of instruction are the way of life:

d) The COMMISSION as AGENTS of CORRECTION—SPEAK the WORD OF TRUTH (13)

“But all things that are reprov’d are made manifest by the light: ...” (Eph 5:13) – This word “reprove” speaks of exposing something.

This word, “manifest” speaks of making something visible.

John 16:8 And when **He** [*the Holy Spirit*] is come, **He** will reprove [*convince*] the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

A Christian's life is to expose sin as an AGENT OF CORRECTION helping the sinner to see HOW TO MAKE THE WRONG RIGHT through the hope that is in Jesus Christ. It is through the life and light of the believer that the sin of his Jerusalem is exposed but also shown how to be right. This is a call to action!

e) The **CALL** to **AWAKEN** to the **CORRECTION—RECEIVE** the **WORD OF TRUTH** (14)

Isaiah 55:6-7 Seek ye the **LORD** while **He** may be found, call ye upon **Him** while **He** is near: **7** Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts: and let him return unto the **LORD**, and **He** will have mercy upon him; and to our **God**, for **He** will abundantly pardon.

As an AGENT OF CALLING, the believer invites lost souls to Christ. Through the applied ministry of the "*instruction in righteousness*" a soul is shown HOW TO STAY RIGHT through a personal relationship with Christ, the One Who is able to give life and light." He is the answer.

Psalms 145:18 The **LORD** is nigh unto all them that call upon **Him**, to all that call upon **Him** in truth.

Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your **Father** which is in heaven.



Our WORTHY WALK is explained by WALKING IN LIGHT. We are to live a life of influence, REFLECTING the LIGHT of CHRIST, toward our HORIZONTAL RELATIONSHIPS. Our RESPONSIBILITY is to LIVE AS "*LIGHTS*" to a darkened world of our Jerusalem. We have been COMMISSIONED AS AGENTS OF CONVICTION and CORRECTION refusing to engage in the CORRUPTIVE CONVERSATION. We are to be AGENTS OF CALLING as we invite lost souls to see THE ANSWER IS CHRIST.

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!