

Selected Puritan Readings

Take heed, therefore brethren [pastors], for the enemy hath a special eye upon you. You shall have his most subtle insinuations, and incessant solicitations, and violent assaults. As wise and learned as you are, take heed to yourselves, lest he outwit you. The devil is a greater scholar than you, and a nimbler disputant: he can transform himself into an angel of light to deceive: he will get within you, and trip up your heels before you are aware: he will play the juggler with you undiscerned, and cheat you of your faith or innocence, and you shall not know that you have lost it; nay, he will make you believe it is multiplied or increased, when it is lost. You shall see neither hook nor line, much less the subtle angler himself, while he is offering you his bait. And his bait shall be so fitted to your temper and disposition, that he will be sure to find advantages within you, and make your own principles and inclinations betray you; and whenever he ruineth you, he will make you the instruments of ruin to others.

~Excerpts from *The Reformed Pastor*

By Richard Baxter (1615-1691)

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, October 25, 2020

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Psalm 23:1-6

Song #155 ~ My Shephard will Supply My Need

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Psalm 52:1-9

Song #136 ~ My Soul Finds Rest in God Alone

Scripture Reading: Psalm 53:1-6

Prayer

Sermon ~ Romans 13:11-14

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #133 ~ He Will Hold Me Fast

Psalm 1:3

He will be like a tree firmly planted by streams of water, which yields its fruit in its season and its leaf does not wither; and in whatever he does, he prospers.

Pastor Dan Benitez ~ 813-751-4305

www.CalvaryBaptistTampa.com

Text: Romans 13:11-14

Theme: Present yourself as a sacrifice to God.

I) Do these things because you know the time is near (v. 11-12a).

A. What things should we be doing?

1. We ought to be exercising our spiritual gifts within the body (12:3-8).
2. We ought to be showing genuine love to others (12:9-21).
3. We ought to be submitting to our authorities (13:1-7).
4. We ought to be showing love to our neighbor (13:8-10).

B. You must awaken from your slumber (v. 11).

1. What does it mean to awake from your sleep? Paul has a parallel passage in 1 Thess. 5:1-10 in which he says that “whether we are awake or asleep, we will live together with Him.” Clearly, in the parallel passage, a Christian can be either awake or asleep.
2. To be awake is to be sober about the spiritual dangers around us. Do you remember the disciples in the Garden shortly before Christ’s death (Matt. 26:39-46)? Christ spent the evening awake and in prayer. The disciples, on the other hand, slept and then fled the scene.
3. Do you realize that Satan is a roaring lion seeking to destroy you (1 Pet. 5:8)? Be sober!

C. Salvation is nearer to us than when we believed (v. 11).

1. When Paul uses the word “salvation” in this passage he is clearly talking about our future glorification (cf. Rom. 8:23-25).

2. Let the anticipation of your future glorification stir you up to be alert. Do you realize that your salvation is nearer today.

D. The night is almost gone and the day is near (v. 12a).

1. In the parallel passage, Paul uses the day to refer to the Day of the Lord (1 Thess. 5:2). Christ return is soon, so live in reality of His return.

II) Lay aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light (v. 12b-14).

A. What are the deeds of darkness?

1. The deeds of darkness not only include the sins done in darkness (i.e. drunkenness, immorality; cf. 1 Thess. 5:7) but all sins (i.e. strife and jealousy).

B. Put on the armor of light (v. 12b).

1. Why does Paul use the idea of putting on armor (cf. 1 Th. 5:8)? The Christian life is a battle and we cannot go into it carelessly or we will be destroyed by sin.

C. Put on the Lord Jesus Christ (v. 14).

1. To put on the Lord Jesus Christ is, in some way, related to putting on the armor of light. Paul probably has in mind that we put on our union with Christ (Rom. 6:8). We need to live in reality of our union with Christ.

2. Don’t make provision for the flesh (v. 14). Don’t allow yourself opportunities to sin. Put some thought ahead of time on ways that you can remove temptation.