

Selected Readings

"And remember, that a state of eternal happiness or misery is not *far remote* from us--but *near* us, just before us! The next year, the next hour, or the next moment--we may enter into it!

Oh, sirs, does an apathetic, careless attitude befit us in such a solemn situation? Is a state of such eternal happiness--or such misery; is such a state which we must shortly enter--a matter of indifference to us? *Oh, can you be lukewarm about such matters?* Was such a exceeding stupidity ever seen under the canopy of Heaven, or even in the regions of Hell--which abound with monstrous and horrid beings? No! the vilest demons below cannot make light of these things! Mortals! can you *trifle* about them?

Well, trifle a little longer--and your trifling will be over, forever! You may now be indifferent about the *improving of your time*; but time is determined to continue its rapid course, and *hurry you into the ocean of eternity*, though you should continue sleeping and dreaming through all the passage!

Therefore awake, arise--before your doom is unchangeably fixed!

Let the *criminal*, condemned to die tomorrow, be indifferent about a pardon; let a *drowning man* be careless about catching at the only plank that can save him; but oh, do not be careless and indifferent about eternity--and such amazing realities as Heaven and Hell!

If you disbelieve these things--you are infidels.
If you believe these things, and yet are *unaffected* with them--you are *worse than infidels!* Not even Hell itself can find a precedent of such a conduct. The devils believe--and *tremble!* You believe--and *trifle* with things whose very name strikes solemnity and awe through Heaven and Hell."

~ Samuel Davies

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, July 26, 2020

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Song #197 ~ The Power of the Cross

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Leviticus 21:1-24

Song #172 ~ Come, Behold the Wondrous Mystery

Prayer

Sermon ~ Romans 12:3-5

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #221 ~ His Mercy is More

Jeremiah 14:22

Are there any among the idols of the nations who give rain?
Or can the heavens grant showers? Is it not You, O Lord our
God? Therefore, we hope in You, for You are the One who
has done all these things.

Next month's scripture memory ~ Psalm 40:5

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Text: Romans 12:3-5

Theme: Present yourself as a sacrifice to God.

Introduction: Everyone receives a gift from the Spirit to be used in the local body (i.e. “everyone among you [v. 3; cf. 1 Cor. 12:14-31]).

I) Present yourself as a sacrifice to God by serving the local body with your Spiritual gifting (12:3-13).

A. Paul’s instruction is an example of humbly serving the body with his Spiritual gift—which is teaching (v. 3).

1. When Paul says “the grace given to me” he is saying “as I use my teaching gift” (cf. Rom. 15:15; 1 Cor. 3:10; Gal. 2:9; Eph. 3:7-8).

2. Notice how Paul identifies his gifting as a “grace given to him”. Because Paul understood that this gifting was graciously given to him there was no reason for pride.

3. Since the gifting is given by the Holy Spirit for the local church, the gifts are not referring to skill sets (cf. 1 Cor. 12:7-11). Someone may be a gifted administrator, but that is different than these gifts.

4. So how do you know what your gifting is? Should you take a test to figure it out? No! Since the Holy Spirit gives the gifting, He will make it known to you how and when to use the gifting to build up the body.

B. Do not think more highly about your gifting than is necessary to think, but rather think reasonably (v. 3).

1. This word “think more highly” is only used here in the Bible, but it is used several times outside the Bible in connection with suffering—“to despise suffering”. Paul is likely saying that we ought not think more highly of our gifting—not ourselves.

2. Our tendency is not to underestimate our gifting, but rather to overestimate our gifting within the body. We must remember that each gift is necessary for the health of the body. You need my gift and I need your gift.

C. The Spiritual gifts are distributed like measures of faith are distributed (v. 3).

1. The reason we should not be proud of our gifting is because God has distributed the gifts (cf. 1 Cor. 12:18).

2. Objection: Do people have differing measures of faith? Yes. Notice that Paul identifies differing proportions of faith (12:6).

D. The members of our physical body illustrate the members of the church body (v. 4-5).

1. Each member of the physical body has a function, much like each member of the church body.

2. We are members one of another.

3. Paul longed to be with the church in Rome so that they could share in each other’s gifting (Rom. 1:11-13).