

Selected Puritan Readings

Conversion turns the balance of the *judgment*, so that God and His glory outweigh all carnal and worldly interests.

It opens the eye of the mind, and makes the scales of its native ignorance fall off, and turns men from darkness to light.

The man who before saw no danger in his condition, now concludes himself lost and forever undone--except renewed by divine grace.

He who formerly thought there was little hurt in sin, now comes to see it to be the chief of evils! He sees the stupidity, the deformity and the filthiness of sin; so that he is affrighted by it, loathes it, dreads it, flees from it, and even abhors himself for it! Romans 7:15; Job 42:6; Ezekiel 36:31

He who could see little sin in himself, and could find no matter for confession--now sees the rottenness of his heart and the desperate and deep pollution of his whole nature. He cries, "*Unclean! Unclean! Lord, purge me with hyssop, wash me thoroughly, create in me a clean heart!*" He sees himself altogether filthy, corrupt in both root and branch. He writes 'unclean' upon all his supposed virtues and good works. He discovers the filthy corners that he was never aware of, and sees the blasphemy, and murder, and adultery that is in his heart, of which before he was ignorant.

By Joseph Alleine (1634-1668)

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, August 30, 2020

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ John 20:11-18

Song #252 ~ See, What a Morning

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Leviticus 26:1-46

Song #221 ~ His Mercy is More

Prayer

Sermon ~ Romans 12:15-16

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #230 ~ Before the Throne of God Above

Psalm 40:5

Many, O Lord my God, are the wonders which you have done, and Your thoughts toward us; There is none to compare with You. If I would declare and speak of them, they would be too numerous to count.

Scripture memory for September ~ Isaiah 33:6

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Text: Romans 12:15-16

Theme: Present yourself as a sacrifice to God.

Introduction: This section (verses 14-21) is primarily referring to our relationship with the world, not with the local church. For example, those who curse you (v. 14) clearly refers to the world. In addition, we are to be at peace with all men (v. 18). Although verses 15-16 could refer specifically to the local church, the context does not give us any clues for taking it this way.

I) Present yourself as a sacrifice by caring deeply for others (v. 15).

A. Our tendency is to have little concern for others.

1. Instead of caring deeply for others, we covet what they have. King Saul coveted David's popularity.

When the women sang of David's conquests, King Saul became angry (1 Samuel 18:6-9).

2. Instead of caring deeply for others, we care deeply about things. For example, Jonah cared deeply about the gourd that provided shade and when it died he became angry. Yet, Jonah had no concern for the Ninevites (Jonah 4:5-11).

B. You will only care deeply for others when you begin to understand the mercies of God towards you (cf. 12:1).

1. There is no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus, because God through Jesus Christ took care of the righteous requirements of the Law on your behalf (Romans 8:1-4). How then could you be indifferent toward others?

C. What does it look like to weep with those who weep?

1. Notice how Jesus cared for Martha. When He heard that her brother had died, he went and wept with her even though He knew the outcome. He was not sorrowful because Lazarus had died, He could have prevented his death. He was sorrowful because Martha was weeping (John 11:30-44).

II) Present yourself as a sacrifice by humbly striving for unity (v. 16).

A. To "be of the same mind" is to have unity (cf. Phil. 2:2)

1. Paul qualifies this peace or unity in verse 18. There will be times when unity is not an option, but as much as is possible, be at peace with all men. There will be times when you have done everything in your power, but the other person will not have peace.

B. Pride destroys unity.

1. Pride is a sin of the mind where you claim sovereignty in an area of your life (cf. Isaiah 14:13-14).

2. Pride becomes evident when we get frustrated that our situation did not work out the way we expected it to.

C. Humility maintains unity.

1. Humility submits to God's sovereignty in your life.

2. A humble person views himself as a servant of God—nothing more, nothing less.