

Selected Readings

As gold is the most precious among the metals, so is faith among the graces. Faith cuts us off from the wild olive of nature, and grafts us into Christ. Faith is the vital artery of the soul: 'The just shall live by his faith' (Hab. 2:4). Such as are destitute of faith may breath, but they lack life... When I believe God's love to me, this makes me weep that I should sin against so good a God. Faith is the mother of hope; first we believe the promise, then we hope for it. Faith is the oil which feeds the lamp of hope. Faith and hope are two turtle-dove graces; take away one, and the other languishes...

And the life of a saint is nothing but a life of faith. His prayer is the breathing of faith (Jas. 5:15). His obedience is the result of faith (Rom. 16:26). A godly man by faith lives in Christ, as the beam lives in the sun: 'I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me' (Gal. 2:20). A Christian by the power of faith sees above reason, trades above the moon (2 Cor. 4:18). By faith his heart is finely quietened; he trusts himself and all his affairs to God (Psa. 112:7).

~Excerpts from *The Godly Man's Picture*

by Thomas Watson

Calvary Baptist Church

Sunday, August 16, 2020

Making Disciples for the Glory of God

Order of Service

Call to Worship ~ Revelation 19:11-16

Song #233 ~ Jesus, Your Blood

Prayer

Scripture Reading: Leviticus 23:1-44

Song #244 ~ Not What My Hands Have Done

Prayer

Sermon ~ Romans 12:9-10

Prayer

Lord's Supper

Song #196 ~ His Robes for Mine

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.

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Text: Romans 12:9-10

Theme: Present yourself as a sacrifice to God.

Introduction: Verses 6-8 refer specifically to presenting yourself as a sacrifice in the local church. Verses 9-21 refer broadly to presenting yourself as a sacrifice in your community. For example, “practicing hospitality” refers specifically to strangers—not those in your church (cf. Hebrews 13:2).

- I) You must present yourself as a sacrifice by demonstrating genuine love (12:9).
 - A. Genuine love does not pretend to care about someone; when in reality, there is no concern at all. For example, David acted concerned for the wellbeing of Uriah as he was plotting Uriah’s death (2 Sam. 11:6-7, 15).
 - B. How well do you listen to others? At home, when your parents begin to explain something to you, do you pretend to listen? You put on a façade that you’re listening, but you really don’t care at all. Parents, when your child explains something to you, take the time and listen. Demonstrating genuine love starts with our everyday conversations.
- II) You must present yourself as a sacrifice by abhorring evil and clinging to good (12:9).
 - A. This text assumes objective truth. Truth is not based on your perspective. God alone determines what is good and what is evil (cf. Job 9:1-3, 32-35; 40:1-5).
 - B. It is not enough to choose good over evil—you must hate evil and cling to good (cf. Gen. 39:9). This is impossible apart from the power of the Gospel.

C. Even though we are commanded to hate evil and cling to good, we will struggle with sin (cf. Rom. 7:15-16). Although Paul struggled with sin, he hated it. A Christian hates his sin. Even Lot, who was living in sin, was grieved by his sin (2 Peter 2:7-8). Does your sin grieve you?

- III) You must present yourself as a sacrifice by being devoted to one another in brotherly love (12:10).
 - A. What does brotherly love look like? Jesus told a parable about a man who was robbed and left for dead (Luke 10:30-37). Two religious leaders saw him and walked by on the other side. The Samaritan man saw him and had compassion and physically helped him. Brotherly love does not walk by on the other side, but rather, stops to get involved in the situation. Because of the mercies of God towards you, you can genuinely get involved.
- IV) You must present yourself as a sacrifice by preferring one another (12:10).
 - A. What does it look like to prefer others above yourself? Abram and Lot had both grown wealthy and the land could no longer contain them (Gen. 13:8-12). So Abram gave Lot the first choice, even though one area was like the garden of the Lord. It is impossible to prefer others above yourself without meditating much on the cross of Christ!
 - B. The disciples, on the eve of the crucifixion, were arguing among themselves over who was the greatest (Luke 22:24); while Jesus was taking a towel and washing their feet (John 13:5). Paul tells us to have the same attitude of Jesus Christ (Phil. 2:5-11). Even though He is God, he humbled Himself and became a servant. When you prefer others above yourself, you are pointing to your glorious Savior Jesus Christ!