

“Your Whole Body, Spirit & Soul”

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

June 16, 2013

C. The revelation of God requires that His children are found blameless at the Lord’s return, (vs. 5: 12 – 28)

3. Blamelessness Requires That We Patiently Call Others To The Higher Standard Of The Gospel, (vs. 14)

The call is a voice from within the covenant, summoning sinners to come within its gracious bond. Of course, therefore, it is a universal call. The one thing which it takes for granted is that sinners are outside the covenant. This is all that is requisite to render them fit subjects for its gracious proposal and authoritative requirement. It is, of course, therefore, a universal call, because it is a call addressed to those that are without. ~ Hugh Martin

14.1) Blamelessness Is A Call; Not A Lecture

“We Urge (παρακαλέω- to call alongside) **You, Brothers”-**

“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:1-2, ESV)

[Men] are naturally guilty; i.e., they have, by the violation of the divine law... In order to their being separated to the enjoyment and service of God, the first thing that is necessary is expiation or atonement. Something must be done to make their salvation consistent with, and illustrative of, the perfections of a holy and just God. This is done by the obedience to the death of our Lord Jesus Christ... [which is] necessary to give to the sinner the moral capacity of spiritually and acceptably serving God; for those who are to be brought "to glory" are not only guilty, but depraved. They are so indisposed as to be morally incapable of serving God... He inclines and enables them to devote themselves to God "as living sacrifice;" ... "a peculiar people, redeemed from all iniquity, zealous of good works." ~ John Brown of Edinburgh

14.2) The Call Is To Warn Against “Disengagement”

“Admonish (Pres.Act.Impv- warn) **The Idle”-**

“But refuse to enroll younger widows, for when their passions draw them away from Christ, they desire to marry and so incur condemnation for having abandoned their former faith. Besides that, they learn to be idlers, going about from house to house, and not only idlers, but also gossips and busybodies, saying what they should not.” (1 Timothy 5:11-13, ESV)

*Rescue the perishing, care for the dying,
Weep o’er the erring one, lift up the fallen,*

*Snatch them in pity from sin and the grave;
Tell them of Jesus, the mighty to save. ~ Fanny Crosby*

14.3) The Call Is To Comfort The “Bruised”

“Encourage (Pres.Act.Impv- comfort) **The Fainthearted”-**

“Brothers, if anyone is caught in any transgression, you who are spiritual should restore him in a spirit of gentleness. Keep watch on yourself, lest you too be tempted. Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.” (Galatians 6:1-2)

*Can it be said of you that you... bear each other's burdens, fulfilling the law of Christ? ... are you studying to live in a state of holy separation... to have no fellowship with the unfruitful works of darkness, but to reprove them? ... are you careful to provide things honest in the sight of all men; observing strict punctuality in your engagements, taking care to enter into no speculations that may endanger your own character and that of the Church... And in your whole deportment, can you truly say, that you set the Lord before you, dreading his holy indignation before the fear of man, and seeking continually his gracious approbation, more than the favour or friendship of the world?
~ Thomas Houston*

14.4) The Call Is To Not Let Go Of Those Faltering

“Help (Pres.Act.Impv- hold on to) **The Weak”-**

“And the Lord’s servant must not be quarrelsome but kind to everyone, able to teach, patiently enduring evil, correcting his opponents with gentleness. God may perhaps grant them repentance leading to a knowledge of the truth,” (2 Tim 2:24-25)

You may learn something out of your child's undutifulness; the child's sin is sometimes the parent's sermon: the undutifulness of children to us may be a memento to put us in mind of our undutifulness once to God. Time was when we were rebellious children; how long did our hearts stand out as garrisons against God, how long did he parley with us, and beseech us, ere we would yield! He walked in the tenderness of his heart towards us, but we walked in the forwardness of our hearts towards him. And since grace hath been planted in our souls, how much of the wild olive is still in us! How many motions of the Spirit do we daily resist! How many unkindnesses and affronts have we put upon Christ! Let this open a spring of repentance; look upon your child's rebellion, and mourn for your own rebellion. ~ Thomas Watson

14.5) The Call Is To “Walk In Their Shoes”

“Be Patient (Pres.Act.Impv) **With All”-**

“For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness. Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.” (Hebrews 5:1-4, ESV)

1) “... the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. 2) Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, 3) that we may present everyone mature in Christ. 4) For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.” (Colossians 1:26-29, ESV)

- 1) How do you see the glory of the Gospel just as another “perk” and not Christ in you?
- 2) How has your “utility” view of the Gospel caused you NOT to warn others of their relationship with Christ?
- 3) Could it be that you are not mature in Christ because you don’t really see the need?
- 4) Do you want to see God work in you? Are you willing to toil for it?

Could it be that you don’t see God working in your life because you are not willing to do the work He wants?

*Lord, Thy Church on Earth is Seeking Thy renewal from above;
Teach us all the art of speaking With the accent of Thy love.
We would heed Thy great commission; "Go ye into every place;
Preach, baptize, fulfill My mission, Serve with love and share My grace."*

4. Blamelessness Requires That We Only Seek To Do What Is Absolutely Good, (vs. 15)
 5. Blamelessness Requires That We Practically Demonstrate A Heart Of Gratitude In All Things, (vs. 16-18)
 6. Blamelessness Requires That We Do Not Discount The Work Of The Holy Spirit, (vs. 19-20)
 7. Blamelessness Requires That We Test All Things By God's Word & Avoid What Is Deficient, (vs. 21-22)

 8. Blamelessness Is Only Accomplished By The Sanctifying Power Of Christ Unto The Last Day, (vs. 23)
 9. Blamelessness Is A Promise That Christ Himself Has Given To Those Who Believe Him, (vs. 24)
 10. Blamelessness In Christ Is The Identifying Mark Of Those Who Love Christ & The Brothers, (vs. 25-26)
 11. Blamelessness Is Not A Secondary Issue But Must Be Primary To The Call Of God's People, (vs. 27-28)
- III We must pay much closer attention to why we must live with self discipline under God's word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)
- A. The wrath of God is a very present reality for those who do not believe the gospel, (vs. 1: 1 - 12)
 - B. The wrath of God is a very present reality governed by the ordained decrees of God, (vs. 2: 1 - 17)
 - C. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 - 18)