

“Your Whole Body, Spirit & Soul”

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

June 2, 2013

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

1. Blamelessness Requires That We Submit To The Authority God Has Ordained For His Church, (vs. 12)

As long as parents encourage in their children such a course, as we have animadverted on above, either by being silent as to its evil tendency, or by giving up the reins of authority in their own houses, we cannot reasonably have any other expectation than that the evil lamented will spread and strengthen. We therefore, earnestly call upon and intreat you, if your children's spiritual interests are dear to your hearts, if your own peace and comfort are dear to you, – if the glory of God and the welfare of Zion are dear to you, – to think seriously what is your duty in the case, and resolutely set yourselves to its performance. Do you ask, what can we do to prevent the evil, or avert its progress. We answer – there are two things which you can do, and which every parent ought to do. – 1st. You can take pains to teach those under your care, the evil and danger of such indulgences as we have specified. You can, with the word of God in your hands, admonish them of their duty, remind them of their obligations as members of the Church of Christ, and affectionately and perseveringly urge their compliance. – 2nd. You can, should your admonitions fail in whole or in part, exercise your authority, as having absolute rule in your own houses. Whatever sin may be in such amusements, either in the thing itself, or in the degree of it, will-be surely prevented, if every Master of a household will exercise the legitimate authority with which God has invested him. ~ Associated Presbytery of Miami

12.1) Is Our Submission Truly Volitional Or Coerced?

“We Ask You Brothers”-

“I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.” (Ephesians 4:1-3, ESV)

When we come to deal particularly with every man's work, then the fire trieth it, 1 Cor. 3: 13. I do the rather urge this because usually ungrounded zeal stayeth in generals, and those that know least are most loose and invective in their discourses. ~ Thomas Manton

12.2) Is Our Submission Informed As To What Labor Is Done?

“To Respect (Pres.Act.Inf- οἶδα, to know)

Those Who Labor (Pres.Act.Part) Among You”- *“So receive him in the Lord with all joy, and honor such men, for he nearly died for the work of Christ, risking his life to complete what was lacking in your service to me.” (Philippians 2:29-30, ESV)*

*Like precious ointment on the head, that down the beard did flow,
Even Aaron's beard and to the skirts Did of his garments go.
Behold, how good a thing it is, And how becoming well,
Together such as brethren are In unity to dwell! ~ Spurgeon Hymns, #133*

12.3) Do We Really See Our Leaders As Those Ordained By God?

“And Are Over (Pres.Mid.Part)

You In The Lord”- *“Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood. I know that after my departure fierce wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock; and from among your own selves will arise men speaking twisted things, to draw away the disciples after them. Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.” (Acts 20:28-31, ESV)*

Another badge this officer doth wear, Is that of overseer; because the care Of the whole house is with him, he's to see They nothing want, nor yet abused be By false intruders, doctrines, or (perchance) By the misplacing of an ordinance. These also are to see they wander not From place or duty, lest they get a blot ~ John Bunyan

12.4) Are We Really Willing To Receive Corrective Instruction?

“And Admonish (Pres.Act.Part) You”-

“As for those who persist in sin, rebuke them in the presence of all, so that the rest may stand in fear. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus and of the elect angels I charge you to keep these rules without prejudging, doing nothing from partiality. Do not be hasty in the laying on of hands, nor take part in the sins of others; keep yourself pure.” (1 Timothy 5:20-22, ESV)

1) “Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, 2) as those who will have to give an account. 3) Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. 4) Pray for us, for we are sure that we have a clear conscience, desiring to act honorably in all things.” (Hebrews 13:17-18, ESV)

- 1) Do you see the leaders of your Church as those who are watching over your very own soul?
- 2) Do you see the leaders of your Church as those who will have to give an account before God?
- 3) Are you doing all that is necessary to make their labors easier? Harder?
- 4) Are you praying for your leaders that they may exercise godly wisdom in leading?

How can you show tangible support & honor for those who labor for you in Christ?

*Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth, Her charter of salvation:
One Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With ev'ry grace endued.*

2. Blamelessness Requires That We Esteem Highly Those Who Labor For Peace Among God's People, (vs. 13)
3. Blamelessness Requires That We Patiently Call Others To The Higher Standard Of The Gospel, (vs. 14)
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)