

(2023) Godliness: Character, Values, Principles and Truth

I. Intro/Review:

- The Godly Family - Spirit-Filled Home
 - Godliness: Character, Values, Principles and Truth
 - The mental and spiritual preparation for parenting
 - You get what you model so model what you want to see
- Family commencing with marriage is one of the divine institutions we all are a part of. Whether you are married, we came from parents, some of us within marriage others outside of marriage.
 - Both, inside or outside of marriage, may have or do experience family outside of godliness.
 - Even children of Christian families consisting of at least one spouse that is Christian may not experience a godly home or spirit-filled home.
- So many topics will be dealt with in the sessions to follow mine - 1) man's makeup, 2) importance of parental example, 3) walking after the Spirit, 4) living in perilous times, 5) the institutions of God, 6) the nurture and admonition of the Lord, 7) decision making, 8) love and respect in marriage, 9) and the local church.
- Godliness is the basis so much a part of these other sessions, the basis for some and intertwined with others.
 - 1) Godliness - god-like-ness (in our image, after our likeness)
 - 2) Godliness - is manifest in good works thus serves as an example
 - 3) Godliness - is if not almost synonymous with walking after the Spirit it is the fruit of it
 - 4) Godliness - involves how we live at all times, including perilous times
 - 5) Godliness - is to be displayed in all of God's institutions
 - 6) Godliness - informs decision making, etc
- So how do we deal with such a comprehensive issue? We will boil it down to its core substance.....
 - Before we talk about a Spirit-filled home - what does it mean to be Spirit-filled?
 - Before we talk about a godly family - what does godly mean?

II. Preview:

- I. What is Godliness? What it is not?
 1. The substance of godliness
 2. The mechanics of godliness

3. The exercise unto godliness

II. The Powerless Form of Godliness

III. The Godly Family & Spirit-Filled Home

III. Sermon:

I. What is godliness? What it is not?

- Definition of Godliness
 - A careful observance of the laws of God and performance of religious duties, proceeding from love and reverence for the divine character and commands
 - Piety
 - Holiness - {Acts 3:12 - translated holiness, everywhere else godliness}
- Godliness - "god-like-ness" - the quality or state of being "god-like"
 - Man made in God's image, after His likeness
 - We know man's likeness to God is something that every person conceived possesses
 - The faculties to "think" and "do" (inner man and outer man)
- Rom. 4:5 - Yet, we know from scripture man is "ungodly"
- What is godliness? (Godliness only mentioned by Paul and Peter and with Paul in the pastoral epistles)
 - Remember - the faculties of being made in His image after His likeness
 - Ungodliness
 1. Vain Imaginations - Rom. 1:18-21
 2. Vile Affections between Bodies - Rom. 1:24
 3. Summary: Reprobate Mind to Do those things which are not convenient - Rom. 1:28
 - Godliness
 1. Renewing of the Mind - Rom. 12:1-2
 2. New Affections between Bodies - Rom. 12:9-10; Gal. 5:24
 3. Summary: The Mind of Christ to do good works - Eph. 4:17-24; Php. 2:3-16, 4:8-9

1. The Substance of Godliness

1. God Himself

- Gen. 1:26 - "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness..."

2. The Word Made Flesh

- Psa 132:11 - "The LORD hath sworn in truth unto David; he will not turn from it; Of the fruit of thy body will I set upon thy throne."

- Jn. 1:14 - And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.
- Jn 5:19-20 - "Then answered Jesus and said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, The Son can do nothing of himself, but what he seeth the Father do: for what things soever he doeth, these also doeth the Son likewise. For the Father loveth the Son, and sheweth him all things that himself doeth: and he will shew him greater works than these, that ye may marvel.
- Jn. 5:30 - "I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me."

3. The Mystery of Godliness

- 1 Timothy 3:14-16 - These things write I unto thee, hoping to come unto thee shortly: But if I tarry long, that thou mayest know how thou oughtest to behave thyself in the house of God, which is the church of the living God, the pillar and ground of the truth. And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.
- Examples
 1. 2 Cor. 4
 2. Gal. 2:20
 3. Tit. 1-3

4. Wisdom, Knowledge, Understanding

- 1 Cor. 1-2
- Eph. 1

5. The Word of God

- 1 The. 2:13 - not the word of men, the word of God
- Col. 1 - to fulfill the word of God
- 2 Tim. 3:16 - all scripture given

2. The Mechanics of Godliness

- Revelation - 1 Cor. 2
- Enlightening - Eph. 1
- Believing - 1 The. 2:13

3. The Exercise unto Godliness

- Partaking in the Divine Nature - 2 Pet. 1:2-4
- Read - 1 Tim. 4:13

- Meditate - 1 Tim. 4:15
- Study - 2 Tim. 2:15,
 - Forward, endeavor, do thy diligence
 - 1 The. 4:11 - "study" {translated - "strived" (Rom. 15:20), "labour" (2 Cor. 5:9)}
- Prayer - Php. 4:6-7,
- Do - Rom. 12:1-2, Php. 4, Col. 3:17, 2 Cor. 10:31-33

- Summary - Col. 3:16

II. **The Powerless Form of Godliness** - 2 Tim. 3:1-5

- The wisdom of the world - Rom. 1, 12, 1 Cor. 1
- Philosophy, Vain Deceit, Tradition of Men - Col. 2
- Doesn't produce the walk after the faith of the Son of God - 1 Cor. 3

III. **The Godly Family - The Spirit-Filled Home**

- Deut. 4:1, 9-10, 6:7, 11:19
- 1 Sam. 12:20-24
- Abraham
- Eli
- Husbands & Wives
 - Husbands fighting the world (1 Tim. 2)
 - Wives fighting their husbands (Gen. 3)

 - Eph. 5-6 Men
 - 1 Tim. 2:15, Tit. 2:1-3-5 Women

- Focus on God's first institution within marriage, that is, your first accountable to God, to serve Him in fear and trembling.

- We ought look first to what our spouse should be doing to us, but rather what God has taught us to do toward our spouse.

- As husband and wife remains students of God's Word and in word and deed teach your children everything.

- You are God in their lives and yet you are not God so when you sin against them you teach them you were wrong, you teach them about forgiveness and through their failures and yours they get a heavy dose of the gospel.

IV. **Conclusion:**