

II Corinthians 5 – 24 April 2022

“Compelled To Serve”

Introduction

- *Paul was 1.5 yrs here (2nd M.T.), made lots of disciples
 - *Some of them needed lots of growth & help
- *Theme of Book: The life of the minister: temporary pain & eternal gain
 - *Chap 1 – ‘thriving in the fire’ -depending on H.S.
 - *Chap 2 – guiding others toward freedom in Christ
 - *Chap 3 – privileges of being in the New Covenant
 - *Chap 4 – Reasons we press ahead & faint not
- *Now Chap 5 – we see the compulsions or motivations behind our service to Christ the King
 - *What motivates you to talk about Jesus?
 - *What motivates you to act like Jesus?
- *Let’s look at 3 great compulsions to serve Jesus Christ and let them grow within us**
- *If you’re not living for Jesus, then ask yourself which one of these motivations is lacking today

1st compulsion believers have within is a Confidence in our future (Vs 1-9)

Read Vs 1

1. This is Paul talking about the future state of believers, not everyone in general (Rev 20 GWT)
2. We know we have a new body waiting for us
 - a. Read John 14:2

Read Vs 2-3

1. We're longing, not to remove our body of sin, but to put on new body of righteousness
2. What is the clothing?
 - a. Read Rev 19:8 – Clothing IS righteousness
3. Read Rom 8:23 – Ever since eternal life began in us, H.S. in us is eager finish the redemption
4. Read Matt 22:11-12 – Can't be in Jesus' wedding w/o this garment showing your righteousness
5. How do we get this righteousness?
 - a. Read Rev 3:18 – Get it from Jesus!

Read Vs 4

1. This life is really just the process of death
 - a. Adam told; in the day you eat you will die
2. We long for the dying process to be done, to be replaced w/ the reality of no sin, decay or going down but maintaining perfect life

Read Vs 5

1. The same God that is making us fully ready for this new body & life, has already given us the firstfruits of what it will be like (H.S.)
2. H.S. within us is proof that the rest is coming!

Read Vs 6-8

1. There's no third option for a believer
2. We confidently know our state here AND then

Read Vs 9

1. Is it your goal to please God?
2. To do this, we have to know His will & plan
3. Are you confident of your future, by knowing that the shed blood of Jesus covers your sins?

2nd compulsion believers have within is a Contention as we serve (Vs 10-15)

Intro: There will be an accounting of our labor for Christ – As Jude said; we need to contend for the faith

Read Vs 10

1. Every city had a Judgement Seat – common
2. We belong to & are under God's authority
 - a. Read Rom 14:7-8 – Alive or dead, we're His
 - b. Read Rom 14:12 – calls this an accounting of our life
3. We'll receive based on good and bad what?
 - a. Not that we receive bad things in heaven
 - b. It's that we'll receive the answer to whether our thoughts, words & deeds were good or bad
 - c. Turn to I Cor 3:12-15 – As if our works will be hung before us at judgment; some are burned up & some turn into crowns

Read Vs 11

1. Scripture speaks a lot about coming judgement

2. Paul has a high respect for the Lord; therefore, he spends his life persuading others this way
3. Paul trusts that God knows his true motivation for why he's spreading the Gospel and Paul hopes that the Corinthians get it also

Read Vs 12

1. Paul wants them to be proud of the work he's doing for Christ
2. This will equip them to address false teachers

Read Vs 13

1. Whether we seem crazy or sane, we're comfortable letting God judge but it's for other's benefit

Read Vs 14-15

1. We were bought w/ price & we love God for it
2. Read I Cor 7:23 – We've been raised into a new life to no longer be the servants of men
 - a. We're now dedicated to serving our adopted King Jesus!
3. Are you letting anything hinder you from serving Christ Jesus? – Contend for the faith

3rd compulsion believers have within is a Commitment to reconciliation (Vs 16-21)

Intro: We're to offer reconciliation to others, just as we've been reconciled to Christ

Read Vs 16

1. Paul no longer judges people "by the flesh" or based on the earthly merits or status
2. What do we judge or need to know about others?
 - a. Are they at peace w/ Christ who died for them?
 - b. Now we consider people on the spiritual plain

Read Vs 17

1. When salvation occurs, the knowledge of what they once did in the flesh is to be put away
2. Tense of the verbs indicate that the old things are completely done and the new things are right now and will continue to be going forward

Read Vs 18

1. One of the “new things” a Christian has in this new life is ability to offer peace & reconciliation
 - a. Read Matt 5:24
 - b. There’s a connection between having peace w/ God & wanted peace w/ others

Read Vs 19

1. This is what the reconciliation & peace is based on; that we have to now offer to others
2. Reconciliation w/ God & then others is based on Christ’s forgiveness offered to us

Read Vs 20

1. Our job as representatives or ambassadors for Jesus is to offer reconciliation & peace to each individual (Read Eph 6:19-20)

Read Vs 21

1. This is the great exchange in our lives!
2. He took our sin; we get His righteousness!

Conclusion

So are you naturally motivated to live for Christ, pleasing Him with your life? B/c if you are, this isn't natural at all, it's super-natural by the Holy Spirit!

- 1. Are you living w/ Confidence in your future?**
 - a. Do you know that you're clothed in the righteousness of Jesus b/c you've accepted His shed blood on the cross as payment for your sins?
- 2. Are you Contending for the faith?**
 - a. Do you want a little notebook of good that you've done when you get there, or a fat book?
 - b. I want crowns to throw back at Jesus' feet!
- 3. Do you have a Commitment to reconciliation?**
 - a. Let's not be critical of unbeliever's behaviors, let's be directed toward their unbelief
 - b. Let our gratitude toward God for bring us peace w/ Him, spill over into reconciliation with others that need to know the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ!