

Pastor Christopher Miller

The Apostle Paul declares in Ephesians 4:11-14, “11

And he gave the

apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds[c]

and teachers,

12

to

equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

13

until we all attain to the unity of the Faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,

14

so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.”

“

13

until we all attain to the unity of the Faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,” Mature Manhood...

2

2

What does it mean to be a man? In a day and age where authentic masculinity is attacked and ostracized, it seems that manhood is under attack on every front. Whether it is by the news media, political agendas, arenas of education, or even by modern teachings within the Church itself, manhood is under attack and by in large, the Church is silent on the matter.

Modern theologians and post-modern pastors seek to demoralize men by using statements such as “What would Jesus do?” and “Jesus was a Pacifist” as a means to neuter men within our society of their masculine identity and tear away at the fabric of who God not only created us to be but has commissioned us to be. What many of these self-proclaimed ministers fail to remember about Jesus according to the Biblical text is as follows: that making his own whips, flipping tables, and calling out corrupt religious leaders and politicians are all within the realm of “What would Jesus do?”.

Sadly, the men who built this nation we call home and the men who spear headed the movement that spark global impact known as the Church are practically non-existent in our present hour. We now live in

a day that if a man demonstrates his emotions and passions in his speech or his actions, he is deemed out of control and animalistic. A man who defends his family is a man who wields excessive use of force and shouldn't be prone to violence. A man who stands up for his right to exist is labeled as a male chauvinist who is hateful and disregards women as objects to be conquered. Men, this is simply not true. You show me a man who is willing to demonstrate his emotions and cultivate his passions by his speech and by his actions and I will show you an authentic man. You show me a man who is willing to stand toe to toe with the evil in this present age to defend his family from harm and tyranny, and I will show you an authentic man.

3

3

You show me a man who embraces his true masculinity and doesn't buy in this garbage now being propagated in our society regarding the non-existence of gender and the fluidity of sexual orientation and I will show you a true and authentic man. Sadly, King Solomon noted in his writings that there is nothing new under the Sun and this is absolutely true. The Apostle Paul when speaking to his son in the Faith, Timothy, penned these words in 2 Timothy 4:3-4,

“For the time is coming when people will not endure

sound teaching, but having itching ears they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own passions,

4

and will turn away from

listening to the truth and wander off into myths.”

But I firmly believe that there are some men in this room today who refuse to buy in the lies of this age! I am looking for the Church that Christ has redeemed to stand up, square its shoulders, and march on towards Glory! And I believe that we have such a church right here in West Monroe Louisiana!

This movement that we hail as the “Pentecostal Movement” was birthed in the fires of the Holy Ghost being made manifest by Men who were willing to shoulder the weight for the sake of the Kingdom of God and if it is the Holy Ghost that birthed us then it is the Holy Ghost that will lead us! It was spearheaded by imperfect Men who served a Perfect God and for the past one hundred plus years, the fires of Pentecost have swept the Nations of the world because God's People were awakened!!!

Christ has called me to serve as the Pastor of this Church which has accepted the call to impact the World with the Gospel of Jesus Christ and I will be found faithful to that Call! We will be found faithful to that

Call! Men of God! WE WILL BE FOUND FAITHFUL!

4

4

I've come this morning looking for some men who have some grit, who have some tenacity, who have some spine, who have some pride, who have some saltiness to their lives. I've got to find me some men who say, "Pastor let's retake the lines! Let's stand up and charge the encampment, let's take back our children! Let's take back our marriages! Let's impact the next generation! Let's build a legacy!" It doesn't matter if you only went to the 2nd

grade, if God called you and put His Word in you then you are the smartest person walking this planet!

I've got to find me some men who, like Meshed, Shadrach, and Abednego, that would not bow and could not burn!

God help me find somebody like Stephen that says, "Stone me at mid-day but I'll still have a song!"

I've got to find me some men like Daniel that says, "Throw me in the lion's den, I'll reckon my position, turn my face towards Jerusalem, offer my prayer to God, and then lay my head in the shaggy mane of a Lion, and sleep like a Baby all night long!"

I've got to find me some men like Paul that said, "For this reason I also suffer these things; nevertheless I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed and am persuaded that He is able to keep what I have committed to Him until that Day."

We live in a time in history where true masculinity is called toxic and men are emasculated for showing aggression; for simply being who God has created us to be! But I know where some men are who love Jesus and are authentic, gritty, hard charging men who refuse to cower to the culture. Men! We need to wake, we need to look up, and we need to pack up! We are getting ready to GO UP in a twinkling of an eye! Christ is getting ready to return for His Church! Give Him Praise and Glory in the House of God!

Pastor Beck Payne

2 . Samuel 4:4

1. Damaged

2. Disappointed

3. Discouraged

4. Depravity

1. Faith

2. Forgiveness

3. Forged

4. Forward into your future

Pastor Brad Jackson

Psalm 145:4-6 (ESV)

4

One generation shall commend your works to another,
and shall declare your mighty acts.

5

On the glorious splendor of your majesty,
and on your wondrous works, I will meditate.

6

They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds,
and I will declare your greatness.