HANDOUT PART ONE: THE OUTWORKING OF GOD'S INWORKING-Philippians 2:12-16

In the Next Few Weeks We are Going to take a close look at what it Means to Live a Life Fully Consecrated to Jesus Christ.

- D. L. Moody, "The World has yet to See what God will Do with a Man Fully Consecrated to Him"
- Psalm 111:10 GOD Makes it Clear that, "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding."

Salvation, you see, is the beginning of a process. Sometimes we forget that because of the way we use the word. Salvation...In its Complete Context...Refers to the Fullness of God's Redemption. Salvation Begins with Regeneration— And Continues with Sanctification— the process of spiritual maturity whereby we are progressively conformed to the image of Christ. It Culminates in Glorification— when we receive our spiritual bodies and are brought into the actual presence of God.

Sanctification is an Ongoing Process Until We See Christ and Receive Our Glorified Bodies.

READ: Philippians 2:12-16 "Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, 13 for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose. 14 Do everything without grumbling or arguing, 15 so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation."[a] Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky 16 as you hold firmly to the word of life. And then I will be able to boast on the day of Christ that I did not run or labor in vain. "We Are Called to Work-Out What God has Already Worked Within Us!"

KEY: The Lord Wants YOU to Work-Out what He has Already Worked Within YOU! When You Trusted Christ as Savior...His Holy Spirit Gave You Everything You Needed to be Mature in Jesus Christ.

Vs 12: It is the Process of Perseverance, Spiritual Growth and Maturation that God is speaking of when He says, "Work Out Your Salvation with Fear and Trembling!" NOTE: NOT WORK FOR...WORK OUT!

- This Working Out of Your Salvation is about the Transformation from Double Mindedness...To Singleness of Heart, Mind and Purpose...CONSECRATION!
- For a Person to become Consecrated...Requires that they Let Christ Fill Every Part of their Being! This is NOT Easy!!!

Simply: Consecration is the Solemn Dedication to God's Special Purpose & Service! SANCTIFICATION

READ Galatians 5:24

Here is What I have learned about Consecration and Sanctification...I Will NEVER Completely Attain it Until I Receive My Glorified Body!

When the Apostle Paul in verse 12 says, "Continue to Work Out" he is making the point that we are to continue working it out Until We Bring It To Completion. <u>It is as if Paul says: "Don't Stop Half Way! Go on until the Work of Salvation is Fully Completed in You!"</u>

We are Demanded to "Work Out," or to Put Into Practice in Our Daily Living, What God has "Worked In" Us by His Spirit. [DETHRONING OF SELF]

 We work out our Salvation by "Keeping in Step" with the Holy Spirit who leads us in the Will of God...Gal 5:16: "So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh."

In Vs.13 God Tells Us Something Very Important, "For it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill His good purpose."

• "It is God who Works in You"! The Process of becoming Sanctified Comes Totally from GOD!

KEY: But for God to Accomplish His Work in Your Life...Before You Can Become More Like Christ...You Must Choose To Put Him First in Every Part of Your Life!

When You Choose to Let God Work in Your Life...He will Provide the motivation and the enabling strength...to Transform Your Life...To Become More Like Christ.

• To Accomplish this God the Holy Spirit uses the Word of God.

Romans 12:1-2 Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. 2 Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

Vs 13 Assures us that God will help us during those times we cannot even seem to want to do right. God says, "I can Provide You the Desire to do My Will, When You do not have it!

And in Vs. 13b God tells Us Why...It is... "for His Good Pleasure"

- It is comforting that God instructed the apostle to add for His Good Pleasure.
- It's Not because WE Deserve it. Rather, God is Pleased to Impute His Character into You and ME!
- God is Pleased to Bring Us to a Point that We can Have the Fellowship with HIM that He Had with Adam and Eve in the Garden before SIN!

GOD Has NEVER STOPPED LOVING YOU...HE ONLY Gives YOU and ME Good Gifts!

<u>James 1:16-17,</u> "Don't be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. 17 Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows.

<u>I LIKE THIS STORY:</u> There was a little girl, whose father was a pastor. One day, she came to her father and said, "Daddy, can a person go their whole life without sinning?" The father answered, "No, honey, I'm sorry, but that's just not possible." "What about a year, daddy? Can a person go a whole year without sinning?" She continued. "No, I don't think that's possible either." "What about a day, can a person go a day without sinning once?" "It's very unlikely, no, I don't think they can." "What about one moment, daddy, can a person go one moment without sinning?" "Yes, Honey That Is Possible." "Then daddy, I want to Live My Life, Moment by Moment."

This Is the Secret to a Life Consecrated to God...Living for Him One Moment at a Time!

Question for YOU... "Are YOU Willing to Live Your Life For Christ...Moment by Moment?"

• This is HOW God Wants Each of Us to Live Our Lives...Living Each Moment, as if it where Our Last One Before WE Reach Eternity.

We can liken the Gift of Salvation to the Gift of a Gold Mine: If someone were to give you a gold mine of incalculable worth, you would have a treasure, BUT the Gold Would NOT do You any Practical Good UNLESS YOU WORKED IT OUT OF THE MINE.

As We Go Through this Series It is My Hope that YOU Will Choose to Give God Your All...Your Time...Your Heart... Your Mind...Your Will

As You Do...God Will Work Out the Riches He Planted in You at Salvation and Transform YOU to become a Living Sacrifice that will Reach Your World for Jesus Christ?!

Mark 8:35 "For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it."

LIFE POINT: Today, I Commit to Work Out What God Has Already Worked Within Me!