

Doing What Ought to Be Done  
November 19, 2017

I **SLIDE** Last Week....but there is more

A) **Romans 1:29-32 (NIV)** <sup>29</sup> They have become filled with every kind of wickedness, evil, greed and depravity. They are full of envy, murder, strife, deceit and malice. They are gossips,

B) <sup>30</sup> slanderers, God-haters, insolent, arrogant and boastful; they invent ways of doing evil; they disobey their parents; <sup>31</sup> they are senseless, faithless, heartless, ruthless. <sup>32</sup> Although they know God's righteous decree that those who do such things deserve death, **they not only continue to do these very things but also approve of those who practice them.**

1) Gabby Douglas - vilified for writing that women should not dress so provocatively

2) Air Force Co. Leland Bohannon was about to be promoted to a one-star general. He was suspended and the recommendation removed because of his stance on marriage: man and woman

3) OU women's softball team

a) Team was invited to the White House

b) They shared the motivation behind their winning season was 2 Samuel 3 about David and his mighty warriors

c) **SLIDE** They asked to pray for and with the President

d) Some responses:

i) Seems a bit inappropriate. Trump is as much a Christian as Jack the Ripper

ii) That hypocritical behavior is everywhere! You can do and say whatever you like as long as you profess you are a Christian!

4) **SLIDE** Despite all of this.... **Romans 2:1 (NIV)** <sup>1</sup> You, therefore, have no excuse, you who pass judgment on someone else, for at whatever point you judge the other, you are condemning yourself, because you who pass judgment do the same things.

## II **SLIDE** Despite this... it is Thanksgiving

### A) Midst of these messages

- 1) These messages are about the wilderness
- 2) Man's tendency to ignore God despite the fact that God has made Himself known
- 3) Replaced God's righteousness with wickedness, God's wisdom with man's foolishness
- 4) We have called evil, good and good, evil
- 5) Yet, this is the time for giving thanks

### B) Remember....

- 1) **Romans 1:21 (NIV)** <sup>21</sup> For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened.
- 2) Two things separate us from our old selves: glorifying God and thanking God
- 3) When we fail to do this, our thinking turns inward and becomes futile
- 4) Our hearts become darkened and hardened
- 5) So, in the midst of these times, it is good for us to give thanks to our Father Who is in Heaven

## III **SLIDE** For what do we give thanks?

### A) We thank you, Lord, that we are not sinners like we used to be

- 1) **Galatians 6:4-5 (ERV)** <sup>4</sup> Don't compare yourself with others. Just look at your own work to see if you have done anything to be proud of. <sup>5</sup> You must each accept the responsibilities that are yours.
- 2) Instead of praying, "Thank You, Lord Jesus, that I am not a sinner like those Paul describes," we pray, "Thank You, Lord Jesus, that I am a better person than I was."
- 3) Our salvation, our growth, our close relationship with Jesus does not make us better than anyone

- 4) **Luke 9:48 (NIV)** Then he said to them, "Whoever welcomes this little child in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. For it is the one who is least among you all who is the greatest."
- 5) We thank Jesus for being the least
- B) **SLIDE** We are thankful that we are now leading people to You and not leading them into sin
  - 1) **Isaiah 53:6 (NIV)** We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to our own way; and the LORD has laid on him the iniquity of us all.
  - 2) **Mark 16:15 -16 (ESV)** <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation."<sup>16</sup> Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.
- C) **SLIDE** We thank You that You convict us of sin but don't condemn us
  - 1) **John 16:8 (NLT)** And when he [the Holy Spirit] comes, he will convict the world of its sin, and of God's righteousness, and of the coming judgment.
  - 2) **Romans 8:1 (NIV)** Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus,
- D) **SLIDE** We thank You for Your Word that will never change and will never be replaced
  - 1) **Hebrews 13:8 (NIV)** Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.
  - 2) Thank God that our salvation is not guided by the whims of man's interpretations or of an ever-changing god
  - 3) The sins Paul lists are still sins today
  - 4) The righteousness that comes by faith still comes by faith
  - 5) Thank God that has not changed.
- E) **SLIDE** We thank You for placing us in this family of believers and for this city and for this nation
  - 1) Thank You for this place to worship in peace
  - 2) Thank You for this family

- 3) Thank You for prospering Coalgate so that it did not die but is becoming a city on a hill
  - 4) Thank You for this nation that was and will be one nation under the God of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob
  - 5) We thank You because we did not deserve any of these
- F) **SLIDE** We thank you that we have eyes to see sin for what it truly is
- 1) **Matthew 13:15 (NIV)** [Jesus said,] <sup>15</sup> **For this people's heart has become calloused; they hardly hear with their ears, and they have closed their eyes. Otherwise they might see with their eyes, hear with their ears, understand with their hearts and turn, and I would heal them.'**
  - 2) **Matthew 13:16-17 (NIV)** [Jesus continued,] <sup>16</sup> **But blessed are your eyes because they see, and your ears because they hear.** <sup>17</sup> **For truly I tell you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see but did not see it, and to hear what you hear but did not hear it.**
- G) **SLIDE** We thank You for the trials and warfare around us because that is evidence that the battle is not lost and that Your promises are "Yes," and "Amen."
- 1) **James 1:2-4 (NIV)** <sup>2</sup> Consider it pure joy, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, <sup>3</sup> because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. <sup>4</sup> Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything.
  - 2) **Isaiah 48:10 (NIV)** Behold, I have refined you, but not as silver; I have tested you in the furnace of affliction.
  - 3) We need perseverance during these times
  - 4) We need - I need - more purifying
- H) **SLIDE** We are thankful that You have called us Yours

IV For what are you thankful?

Hallelujah - Pentatonix