

Adult Sunday School

October 26, 2008

The Lord is our Director

II Thessalonians 3:1-6, 15-16,18

TEXT: 2 Thess. 3:5

And the Lord direct your hearts into the love of God, and into the patient waiting for Christ.

I. The Lord directs the heart of the Righteous with a Mighty hand and a Merciful eye.

The declaration of being under the mighty hand of God (**I Peter 5:6**) and being in His sight (**James 4**) is a comfort to the humble and as well **Righteous**.

For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil.—I Peter 3:12

A. The Lord's mighty hand and tender eyes are over the righteous that remain humble and in love with faith and patience.

Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;—I Thess. 1:3

II Thess. 1:3-5

FAITH —growing exceedingly
LOVE —abounding toward each other
PATIENCE —in all persecutions and tribulations.

B. Only the Lord can properly direct the heart.

- Into the love of God
- Into the patient waiting for Christ
- Into all that has been purposed for us in Christ

But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

Whereunto he called you by our gospel, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.—2Thess. 2:13, 14

O LORD, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walketh to direct his steps.—Jer. 10:23

*LORD, thou hast heard the desire of the humble: **thou wilt prepare their heart**, thou wilt cause thine ear to hear:—Ps. 10:17*

II. ‘Humble Yourselves’ is the Lord’s direct *command* and you’re **ONLY choice**, to be made and remain righteous.

What man is he that feareth the LORD? him shall he teach in the way that he shall choose.—Ps. 25:12

- ➔ Man can humiliate you but you must choose to be humble.
- ➔ Man can humble themselves before you as an example for you but you must make your choice.

A. BASED ON YOUR CHOICE: GOD WILL RESPOND IN GRACE OR WRATH —John 3:18, 36—

Come, and let us return unto the LORD: for he hath torn, and he will heal us; he hath smitten, and he will bind us up.

After two days will he revive us: in the third day he will raise us up, and we shall live in his sight.—Hosea 6:1, 2

Hos. 14:4; Isa. 57:15-21; 55:7; II Chron. 7:14

After crosses and losses, men become wiser.—Ben Franklin

Who is wise, and he shall understand these things? prudent, and he shall know them? for the ways of the LORD are right, and the just shall walk in them: but the transgressors shall fall therein.—

Hosea 14:9

B. The Lord prepares the heart with a direct cry and waits for obedience.

1. *O love the lord, Ps. 31:23*

2. *O fear the Lord, Ps. 34:9;4:4*

3. *Now bless the Lord, I Chron. 29:18-20*

4. **Ps. 34:3** *O magnify the LORD with me, and let us exalt his name together.*

5. **Ps. 96:9** *O worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness: fear before him, all the earth.*

6. **Ps. 98:1** *O sing unto the LORD a new song; for he hath done marvellous things: his right hand, and his holy arm, hath gotten him the victory.*

7. *O give thanks unto the Lord.*

Ps. 105:1; 106:1; 107:1; 118:1, 29

Ps. 136:1 *O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: for his mercy endureth for ever.*

Ps. 136:2 *O give thanks unto the God of gods: for his mercy endureth for ever.*

Ps. 136:3 *O give thanks to the Lord of lords: for his mercy endureth for ever.*

Ps. 136:26 *O give thanks unto the God of heaven: for his mercy endureth for ever.*