

FBC Men's Thursday Bible Study

Lessons Learned

2 Thess 4:7-8--“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Now there is in store for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day—and not only to me, but also to all who have longed for his appearing”

Titus—Paul instructs Titus to name a group of Christian leaders who follow the ways Jesus taught and provided a list of traits each elder should possess. This is an amazing list of good traits expected by these new elders. In this land it would seem they might be hard to find. What does this say about our church?

Colossians 3-- Paul gives clear rules on how a transformed Christian individual should behave; what not to focus on and what to focus on. These are very hard changes to be made and an individual cannot make this transformation with their own will. Christ must be involved!

1 Thess—Paul paired two ideas—1) the Word of the Lord ”Sounded forth!” and their faith to God “has gone out!”

1 Thess 4:1-8—To abide in the faith of the gospel is not enough, we must abound in the work of faith.

1 Thess 4:9-12—The teaching of the Spirit exceeds the teachings of men; and men's teaching is vain and useless, unless God teaches.

1 Thess 4:9-12—Satan is busy to trouble us; and we have in our hearts what disposes us to be unquiet; therefore, let us study to be quiet.

1 Thess 4:9-12—Christianity does not take us from the work and duty of our particular callings, but teaches us to be diligent therein.

1 Thess 4:13-18—(speaking on grief) Christianity does not forbid, and grace does not do away, our natural affections. Yet we must not be excessive in our sorrows; this is too much like those who have no hope of a better life.

1 Thess 4:13-18—It will be some happiness that all the saints shall meet, and remain together for ever; but the principal happiness of heaven is to be with the Lord, to see him, live with him, and enjoy him forever.

1 Thess— God's wrath is not a reckless rage, an uncontrollable anger, a senseless fury, or an unjust vengeance. The wrath of God is a precise and controlled response to the belittling of his holiness. Everyone who perishes under the wrath of God in eternity will not be because God lost his temper with them and mistreated them. Jesus endured the wrath of God on the cross. He removed that wrath so we could be close to God.

C. S. Lewis talks about how “holiness” began to attack him. Holiness is about living our lives to please God.

Paul says, you’ve been taught by the Holy Spirit to love and now do it more!

1 Thess 5—Paul instructs believers to warn those who are lazy busybodies, encourage those who are easily discouraged, assist those whose faith is weak, And exercise patience with everyone.

1 Thess 5—Paul says, Our moderation as to all earthly things should be known to all men.

1 Thess 5-- And the people should be at peace among themselves, doing all they can to guard against any differences. But love of peace must not make us wink at sin.

1 Thess 5--we must be careful not to quench the Holy Spirit, by indulging carnal lusts and affections

1 Thess 5:13,16-22—Paul instructs believers not to ignore or reject what the Spirit wants them to do, nor take a dim view of prophesying...By prophesyings, here understand the preaching of the word, the interpreting and applying the Scriptures

1 Thess 5:23-28-- Not only are the common people allowed to read the Scriptures, but it is their duty, and what they should be persuaded to do. The word of God should not be kept in an unknown tongue, but transplanted, that as all men are concerned to know the Scriptures, so they all may be able to read them.

2 Thess- The apostle Paul, in concern for the Thessalonian believers who were trying to stand firm in their faith under pressure from false teachers, taught the Thessalonians in this letter that their hope in Christ’s future return should serve as an encouragement to them in their suffering, motivating them to live responsibly for Him. Paul always connected his teaching on Jesus with the practical growth he expected to see as a result of such a deeply held faith.

2 Tess 2:3-- In the Bible, the word “mystery” refers to something that God had formerly concealed but has now revealed.

2 Thess 2:7—Who is the “Restrainer”? Paul is thinking of lawlessness that transpires within the church, the restrainer is probably also found within the church. Paul may be thinking, then, of the gospel message, the Word of God, ministers of the Word, the government of the church, the Spirit who indwells the church, or some combination of any of these. In any case, what’s important is that the restrainer does precisely what God intends for him/it to do, and for as long as God intends for him/it to do it.

2 Thess 3:1-5 If, by the special grace of God, we have that faith which multitudes have not, we should earnestly pray that we may be enabled, without reserve, to obey his commands, and that we may be enabled, without reserve, to the love of God, and the patience of Christ.

2 Thess 3:16-18 We need nothing more to make us safe and happy, nor can we desire any thing better for ourselves and our friends, than to have God's gracious presence with us and them

Hebrews 4:15- Thus, believers can rest knowing that Jesus is the perfect King who rules with infinite power and justice. Believers are also comforted knowing Jesus is the perfect Priest who ministers with infinite mercy and sympathizes with us in our weaknesses (Heb. 4:15).

Hebrews 7—Who is Melchizedek? In the New Testament, the writer of Hebrews raises Melchizedek's profile to a pre-incarnate Christ-figure. Melchizedek is eternal, having no "father or mother" and "resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever" (Heb. 7:3). Abraham's tithe to Melchizedek also confirms his greatness (Heb. 7:4). Following Melchizedek, Jesus is the true king of righteousness ("Melchizedek") who lived the perfect life no human being could. Jesus is also the true king of peace (Salem) who came to earth to bring peace through his sacrificial death and resurrection. Jesus is also "a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek" (Heb. 7:17) and not through Levitical lineage (Heb. 7:14), making his priesthood superior (Heb. 7:11).

As a result, "This makes Jesus the guarantor of a better covenant" (Heb. 7:22). Because "he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever" (Heb. 7:24), "he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them" (Heb. 7:25).

It is evident that the sacrifices of Christ are infinitely better than those of the law, which could neither procure pardon for sin, nor impart power against it. Sin would still have been upon us, and have had dominion over us; but Jesus Christ, by one sacrifice, has destroyed the works of the devil, that believers may be made righteous, holy, and happy.

Hebrews 9:6-10 The apostle goes on to speak of the Old Testament services. Christ, having undertaken to be our High Priest, could not enter into heaven till he had shed his blood for us; and none of us can enter, either into God's gracious presence here, or his glorious presence hereafter, but by the blood of Jesus

Hebrews 9:11-14 Nothing more destroys the faith of the gospel, than by any means to weaken the direct power of the blood of Christ. The depth of the mystery of the sacrifice of Christ, we cannot dive into, the height we cannot comprehend. We cannot search out the greatness of it, or the wisdom, the love, the grace that is in it. But in considering the sacrifice of Christ, faith finds life, food, and refreshment.

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So, in Hebrews 9–10, the Great Absence of Christ in the old covenant is a thunderclap of warning and wonder. The old covenant in and of itself is powerless. We must have a Redeemer. Otherwise, our guilt will not be removed, and God's wrath will not be averted.

That's the meaning of redemption in Hebrews 9:12: "By means of his own blood, [he secured] an eternal redemption." Redemption means that there has been a blood payment to liberate us from the bondage of the guilt of sin.

This is the greatness and the wonder of the sanctifying Christ. As he prepares his people for heaven, the only people he perfects are the perfected. The only people he sanctifies progressively are those who are already sanctified decisively. The only people he purifies are the perfectly pure.

This is the most foundational, most central, most essential achievement of Christ. By it all other achievements stand. Don't hide this. Tell it from the housetops. In Christ all guilt is removed, and all wrath averted.

1 Peter

² who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, to be obedient to Jesus Christ and sprinkled with his blood:

love for each other, love one another deeply, from the heart

Peter teaches how the prophets searched for evidence of the Messiah, of God's plan. He speaks of the Spirit of Christ—the Holy Spirit. They were saved without fully understanding God's plan. They experience grace through faith.

He also says the angels were curious. Even angels long to look into these things. They can't relate to some of the things we experience.

¹³ Therefore, with minds that are alert and fully sober, set your hope on the grace to be brought to you when Jesus Christ is revealed at his coming. ¹⁴ As obedient children, do not conform to the evil desires you had when you lived in ignorance.

¹⁵ But just as he who called you is holy, so be holy in all you do; ¹⁶ for it is written: "Be holy, because I am holy." We are very blessed in that we have the gospel and a clear declaration of God's plan. Peter and Paul teach us how to conduct our lives to be holy through the gospel.

13 Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? 14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed.

Employee to employer—most of our time is spent working. As a result, it's a chance for Christians to make an impact on non-believers.

For example, in 1 Peter 4-5 last week we learned how to be humble—turn your cares, your anxiety, over to God so you are not trying to take care of it yourself. Ask God to go first.

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We also learned the churches in Asia Minor were apparently suffering because of man's sin but also suffering as part of God's plan to purify the churches. Is that happening now?

Melchizedec met Abraham when returning from the rescue of Lot. His name, "King of Righteousness," doubtless suitable to his character, marked him as a type of the Messiah and his kingdom. The name of his city signified "Peace;" and as king of peace he typified Christ, the Prince of Peace, the great Reconciler of God and man.

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The great difference between what Christ did and what the priests of the Old Testament did is summed up briefly in verses 11 and 12: Every priest stands daily ministering and offering, time after time, the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins; but He, having offered one sacrifice for sins for all time, sat down at the right hand of God.

." This faith says, "Christ, today I have sinned. But I hate my sin. For you have written the law on my heart, and I long to do it. And you are working in me what is pleasing in your sight. And so I hate the sin that I still do, and the sinful thoughts that I contemplate.

So, in Hebrews 9–10, the Great Absence of Christ in the old covenant is a thunderclap of warning and wonder. The old covenant in and of itself is powerless. We must have a Redeemer. Otherwise, our guilt will not be removed, and God's wrath will not be averted.

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