

REMINDER

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Dr. Paul Chappell

Moved with Compassion

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“But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd. Then saith he unto his disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the labourers are few; Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest” (Matthew 9:36-38).

Having godly compassion means seeing the needs of people before seeing the differences in people. Alexander Maclaren, Baptist minister in Scotland in the late 1800s, once said, “Kindness makes a person attractive. If you would win the world, melt it, do not hammer it.” Maclaren makes the point that kindness and compassion has more of an influence on others than harsh treatment.

One of the greatest examples we have of compassion is seen in Christ. His compassion took Him from Heaven's perfect habitation to earth's sinful state. It drew Him to a people whom He loved but who hated Him, and it led Him to a death on an old rugged Cross. Compassion was the driving factor behind Jesus' earthly ministry, and the story in our verses today illustrates this truth.

“But when he saw the multitudes, he was moved with compassion on them, because they fainted, and were scattered abroad, as sheep having no shepherd.” Christ saw the people before Him, not as followers or promoters of his popularity, but as lost souls, needing His help.

Imagine being in Christ's spot. Multitudes of people stood before Him, and, whether they knew it or not, they needed His healing, physically and spiritually. They had been lost in a tradition of religious knowledge and worship that He had come to end. Everyone in Israel needed His salvation.

Jesus was moved with compassion by seeing the needs of the people. Jesus' compassion wasn't simply a heartfelt emotion; He acted upon His compassion. He commanded the disciples, ***“Pray ye therefore the Lord of the harvest, that he will send forth labourers into his harvest.”***

How do you view the people around you? Do you see them as friends, neighbors, perhaps people with problems? Or do you, like the Lord, see them as people needing help? Having godly compassion means seeing the needs of people before seeing the differences in people. Some people are called to be missionaries and spread God's Word, but we all are instructed to pray for the lost souls of others. No one person can reach the entire world, but as God's people pray for His work to be done and are faithful in the work God has called them to do, God's message will be spread.

It's sometimes overwhelming to think of the millions of people you cannot reach with God's Word. Sometimes you might even want to drop everything and travel the world, telling others of Christ! While that is a worthy aspiration, He has called you to be faithful where you are and continue reaching out to those around you.

How far is your spiritual reach? Do you reach out to people around you through witnessing, to missionaries through praying, and to other countries through giving? God desires that you would have compassion on the lost of this world, and that compassion would move you enough to seek God's help in reaching them. Take time today to pray for God's work to be prosperous in other countries, and continue reaching out in your own mission field where you live. You can make a difference as you are faithful where you are right now. ■

The Apostle Paul, writing to the believers in Philippi, made an astonishing and yet very wise statement -

“Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus” (Phil. 3:13-14).

Paul, in essence, is saying, *“Brethren, I know I haven’t arrived yet, spiritually - I’m far from it. But there is one thing that I AM sure of: I am constantly forgetting those things that have happened - good or bad - in the past, and am, right now, pressing forward toward the calling God has for me. Namely, that I become like Jesus Christ.”*

Paul knew something that we would all do well to learn, and that is this: ***In Order To Move Forward As Individual Believers and As A Church, We Must FORGET The Past, and Look Forward To The Future!***

What is past? Everything - the good AND the bad. Dwelling on the failures or triumphs of the past do little to see to it that the future turns out the way God intended. Many times, secular marriage counselors, in an attempt to help a troubled couple, will ask a host of questions about their past. This usually results, I’ve noticed, in doing nothing but open old wounds and prevent permanent healing to occur. All that it really succeeds in doing is to divide the troubled couple, not draw them together.

The same can be said for a church. If we dwell on the glories or sorrows of the past, we will never progress toward the mark of the high calling God has for us as His children and as a church. All we will succeed in doing is to drag ourselves down - either by comparing in sorrow ourselves with the greatness we think we once were, or by continuing to open old wounds inflicted by past failures, thus never allowing them to completely heal.

The Bible says, ***“...but they measuring themselves by themselves, and comparing themselves among themselves, are not wise” (II Corinthians 10:12b).***

There are so many things on God’s horizon for us - so many things that God wants to use US to do. Yet, if we fail to do them, then we’ve really failed, haven’t we? I believe that our greatest days of service to Christ are yet future!

IF THAT’S TRUE, then there are some things we are going to ALL have to do to see it come to pass -

1. WE MUST ALL DEAL WITH ANY UNCONFESSED SIN THAT IS IN OUR LIFE. Psalm 66:18 says, ***“If I regard***

iniquity in my heart, the Lord will not hear me.” - We all have the tendency to ignore our “pet” sins or those that don’t seem so “big,” leaving them unconfessed. This hinders the child of God to no end, and further hinders the church for which Christ died. Confess and repent of any sins that you know you have in your life, and renew your repentant spirit toward those you already have dealt with.

2. WE MUST ALL SEEK TO ALLOW OURSELVES TO BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD. Paul commands us to ***“. . .be (continually being) filled with the Spirit” (I Cor. 5:18b)***. Not only must we confess and repent of our sins, we must ask God to fill us with His Spirit, for it is ***ONLY THEN*** that we will do the will of God, both at home and in the church.

3. WE MUST ALL DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO FOLLOW CHRIST AS CLOSELY AS POSSIBLE. Jesus said to a young man by the name of Matthew, ***“Follow Me”*** and the Bible says that Matthew ***“arose, and followed Him” (Matthew 9:9)***. This, by definition, will mean a re-arranging of priorities in our lives. Parents - show your children what’s **REALLY** important to you by teaching them **BY EXAMPLE** how to love Christ and His Church.

4. WE MUST ALL SEEK TO STRENGTHEN OUR HOMES AND CHURCH. This is not an option. Listen to the Apostle Peter - ***“But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect (mature in Christ), establish, strengthen, settle you” (I Peter 5:10).***

Spiritual strength comes from within, as we daily yield ourselves to the Lord. Strength in the home comes as the husband, wife, and children understand their God-given roles and operate within them. It is the same in the Lords’ church - all of us are designed by God to function in different roles. No one is better than another - just different.

One of the best ways our homes can be strengthened is for the fathers and mothers to attend and participate in the various ministries we have for them here at our church. **Ladies** - there is a baby shower coming up next Sunday after church. Why not sign up and be there with the other ladies in your church family?

In addition, we have our **Ladies Prayer Group** that meets at six o’clock on Sunday evenings. Praying together is a **GREAT** way to bind the hearts of our people together, plus it teaches your daughters what’s **REALLY** important! What possible Scriptural or rational reason **wouldn’t** you want to be involved in it?

Men - it’s Fall again, and time restart our monthly Men’s Prayer Breakfast. Why not purpose **NOW** to be here when the next one comes around in October?

There’s a fifth and most important thing we must all do, if we are to grow strong spiritually as individuals, families, and a church, and that is -

5. WE MUST ALL SHARE THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST WITH EVERYONE THAT WE POSSIBLY CAN! Our Lord Jesus Christ said, ***“. . .as you are going, make***

disciples...” (Matt. 28:18). There is no option there - it is a command.

What do you think would happen if the men of our church would begin to share Christ with everyone with whom they came in contact? What do you think would happen if the women of our church would begin to share Christ with everyone with whom they came in contact? What do you think would happen if the young people of our church would begin to share Christ with everyone with whom they came in contact?

Well, you know - **REVIVAL WOULD BREAK OUT!**

What is it that’s keeping you from telling others about Christ? All you have to do is share what He is doing in your life! **IT’S THAT EASY!** Unless, of course, He isn’t doing anything in your life - then it’s hard.

Go out this week and tell someone about Christ. Participate in the ministries of your church (*translation: FIND A PLACE OF SERVICE AND GET BUSY!*). Let the light of Christ shine through you - and you will see a new heart within you, a new family around you, a new church that loves you, and new souls being saved for the Kingdom’s sake! Let this little hymn by B. B. McKinney be your theme song -

*“While passing through this world of sin,
And others your life shall view -
Be clean and pure, without within,
Let others see Jesus in you.
Your life’s a book before their eyes,
Their reading it through and through.
Say - does it point them to the skies?
Let others see Jesus in you.”*



Dr. Chuck Baldwin

Romans Chapter 13 Revisited, Part 2,

by Dr. Chuck Baldwin, Pastor - Crossroad Baptist Church,
Pensacola, Florida

....This means that, in America, the “higher powers” are not the men who occupy elected office; they are the tenets and principles set forth in the U.S. Constitution. Under our laws and form of government, it is the duty of every elected official to obey the U.S. Constitution (and his or her State constitution). Therefore, this is how Romans Chapter 13 reads to Americans:

“Let every soul be subject unto the [U.S. Constitution.] For there is no [Constitution] but of God: the [Constitution] that be [is] ordained of God. Whosoever therefore resisteth the [Constitution], resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. For [the Constitution is] not a terror to good works, but to the evil. Will thou then not be afraid of the [Constitution]? do that which is good, and thou shalt have praise of the same: For [the Constitution] is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou

do that which is evil, be afraid; for [the Constitution] beareth not the sword in vain: for [the Constitution] is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil. Wherefore ye must needs be subject, not only for wrath, but also for conscience sake. For this cause pay ye tribute also: for [the Constitution is] God’s minister, attending continually upon this very thing. Render therefore to all their dues: tribute to whom tribute is due; custom to whom custom; fear to whom fear; honour to whom honour.”

Dear Christian friend, the above is exactly the proper understanding of our responsibility to civil authority in these United States, according to the teaching of Romans Chapter 13.

Furthermore, Christians, above all people, should desire that their elected representatives submit to the Constitution, because it is constitutional government that has done more to protect Christian liberty than any other governing document ever devised by man. As I have noted before in this column, Biblical principles and Natural Law form the foundation of all three of America’s founding documents: the Declaration of Independence, the U.S. Constitution, and the Bill of Rights.

As a result, Christians in America (for the most part) have not had to face the painful decision to “obey God rather than men” and defy their civil authorities. The problem in America today is that we have allowed our political leaders to violate their oaths of office and to ignore--and blatantly disobey--the “supreme Law of the Land,” the U.S. Constitution. Therefore, if we truly believe Romans Chapter 13, we will insist and demand that our civil magistrates submit to the U.S. Constitution

Now, how many of us Christians are going to truly obey Romans Chapter 13?

Cradle Roll

OUR VERY NEWEST -



Brenda Lorene White

*Born to Nathaniel
and Rebekah White
September 14, 2008
6 pounds, 13 ounces*

**LADIES - DON’T FORGET THE BABY
SHOWER FOR LEANNA WHITE IS
NEXT SUNDAY AFTER THE MORNING
SERVICE!**

NURSERY MINISTRY WORKERS FOR THIS WEEK

10:50 a.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Mary Byars
 Cradle Roll 2: Larry Byars
 6:00 p.m. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Janet Bridges
 Cradle Roll 2: Bertha Segebarr
 Wed. Eve. Service ----- Cradle Roll 1: Shirley White
 Cradle Roll 2: Merri Geroux

AND THE PEOPLE CAME...


Week of September 13, 2009

Sunday School ----- 21
 Sunday Morning Service ----- 33
 Sunday Evening Service ----- 29
 Wed. Eve. Service, 09/16/09 ----- 22

AND THE PEOPLE GAVE...

Week of September 13, 2009

Undesignated Tithes & Offerings ----- \$ 1,272.00
 New Hymnals Fund ----- \$ 65.00
Total Received for Week of 09/13/09: \$ 1,337.00

*Average amount of Undesignated Offerings needed
 to operate the church
 EACH WEEK,
as a minimum = \$ 1,400.00 *

FUND DRIVE REPORTS

NEW HYMNAL FUND

Offerings Received To Date: \$ 1,655.00

NEW PIANO FUND

Offerings Received To Date: \$ 574.00

PARSONAGE RENOVATION FUND

Total Received, To Date: \$ 449.00



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WHAT IT MEANS TO BE SAVED

1. *Admit that you are a sinner.*
2. *Admit that God says all sins must be paid for.*
3. *Accept the fact that Christ took upon Himself the suffering necessary to pay for all your sins.*
4. *You must change your mind about sin and sinning (God calls this repentance).*
5. *By an act of your will, accept by faith the Lord Jesus Christ, who can save you from the penalty of sin. Then, tell God about this in a simple prayer. Believe that God keeps His promise to save you, and thank Him for His salvation.*



Please Remember To Be Faithful to Give!

As with everything else, the costs of keeping a church going never go down - they always go *up*. Bills wait for no one, and churches are no exception to this. An extra, sacrificial gift today by everyone present would go a long way...

We encourage all of our membership to practice obedience to God by being faithful every payday to give back to Him His tithe (10%). *If every family in our church would practice this one simple discipline, we would never have weeks where we have to put off paying some bills until the following week!*

Everything is expensive, especially for a small church like ours, but ours is a BIG God, and He LOVES to bless His children when they are obedient to Him!

If you are already a tither, we thank you, and encourage you to also give offerings as well. If you're currently not tithing, won't you please start *today* - **OK?** Thank you.

Church Directory

Todd W. White ----- Pastor
 Mickie Shatwell ----- Pianist
 Dickie Eberle ----- Greeter, Custodian
 Larry Mathews, Caryn Quinnelly, Todd W. White ----- S.S. Teachers
 Larry & Mary Byars, Brian & Charity Crawford,
 Dwayne English ----- Outreach
 Flowers ----- Hannah and Shirley White