#### FUEL YOUR PASSION FOR CHRIST 05-05-19

**1** FREE ARTICLES, AUDIOS, AND VIDEOS WITH NOTES ON BIBLICAL CHUCKWAGON LightHouse—Ranch.com James Porteous, Gospel Ministries International

Comments before the sermon

As I was before the Lord regarding this message I suddenly became aware of a divine call for fervency and a more passionate pursuit of the things and ways of God. The Lord is answering the prayers of His army of believers who are hungering for the depth and strength of God's Word and a more intimate relationship and fellowship with the person of the Lord Jesus Christ. He is leading His believers into what the Holy Bible calls sanctification.

**SANCTIFICATION** IS A WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WHICH REQUIRES JOINT PARTICIPATION OF THE BELIEVER AND THE HOLY SPIRIT IN FAITH, FELLOWSHIP, AND OBEDIENCE (Php 2:13)

**2** FAITH 2Th 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks always 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:

Before the world was created God the Father foreknew and foresaw those who would accept His Son Jesus Christ as Savior by faith. He is stirring His remnant He foresaw who would be people of faith, people who would believe the truth and pursue a sanctified life through love and fellowship with Him.

1. Sanctification: a purifying work of the Holy Spirit accomplished by the believer's obedience and yielding to God's transforming ways and power.

2. Belief of the truth: (FAITH) the believer's response to the Word of God.

(Heb 11:6) But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

**GOOD NEWS** – **REWARDS** – the diligent search for Him (GOD) in faith reaps blessings and rewards for the believer of God's Word.

1. **Diligent search**: perseverance, fervent determination (Lk 11:9).

2. **Seek God**: the promise is to those who seek <u>GOD</u>, not things. Things are by products of seeking God, but the answer and the rewards are in Him.

3. **Believe**: faith in God and that He is. He is eternal. He is the Creator and Sustainer of all things. He always was and He has no end. He is the One and Only true God. His Word is fully and completely true. He is not a deceiver,

you can trust Him and what He says to be true. Faith in God and that He is reaps tremendous rewards from the Father, but without faith it is impossible to please Him. Without faith there are no rewards, no blessings, no answers.

4. Unbelief: Doubt and unbelief displease God immensely. The reward of unbelief is bondage to sin, the flesh, the world, and the devil. The "wages" of these is death, not freedom, not deliverance, not victory, no "life in Christ." Unbelief is a "destroying weapon" of the devil who is a liar, a thief, and the destroyer, the master of deceit. TAKE THE CHALLENGE—BELIEVE GOD.
5. The Lord offers Faith to the unbeliever. Faith is offered by the Lord to the unbeliever through the preaching of the gospel. The proclamation of the gospel is the "call" of God to believe and receive Christ and His Word for deliverance, to be regenerated, reconciled to fellowship with God and to receive the reward of "life in Christ" for all who believe and trust Him.

#### FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LORD IS BY FAITH-PURSUE IT FERVENTLY

**3 FELLOWSHIP** 1Jn 1:3 That which we have seen and heard declare we unto you, that ye also may have fellowship with us: and truly our fellowship *is* with the Father, and with his Son Jesus Christ.

1Jn 1:6 If we say that we have fellowship with him, and walk in darkness, we lie, and do not the truth:

The Lord foresaw there would be churches in the end times that are void of an intimate relationship to Christ and that believers would be starving from lack of spiritual nourishment although stuffed with unbiblical philosophical and smooth messages void of teachings on holiness and sanctification.

He foresaw that little or no regard would be given to His Word as Satan's false prophets and false teachers lure believers through messages that support the works of the flesh, lust of the flesh, lust of the eyes, and the pride of life (i.e., works of the old man).

The prophet Jeremiah said these people "have no delight" in the Word of God (Jer 6:10).

To whom shall I speak, and give warning, that they may hear? behold, their ear is uncircumcised, and they cannot hearken: behold, the word of the LORD is unto them a reproach; they have no delight in it. (Jer 6:10)

**THE LORD SOLEMLY WARNS** – (2Ti 4:3) For the time will come when they will not endure sound doctrine; but after their own lusts shall they heap to themselves teachers, having itching ears;

I am compelled of the Lord to warn of some seriously damaging doctrines that are prevalently taught today— "from such turn away" (2Ti 3:5).

#### WARNINGS OF DOCTRINES OF DEVILS

# **4** Examples of false teachings that support the lust of the flesh.

 Unconditional eternal security, you can't lose your salvation, foster irresponsibility in spiritual growth and "no fear of God" in the mandate to humbly "work out your own salvation with fear and trembling" (Php 2:12).
 God through His sovereignty alone designed His redemptive plan of predestination of a "chosen few" people without specific guidelines.

### MORE DAMAGING DOCTRINES OF DEVILS

# **5** Examples of false teachings that support the lust of the eyes.

1. Gain is godliness, promoting a "materialistic" lifestyle without regard to a life of holiness and service.

2. Tolerance of immorality among believers, no biblical guidelines taught on holiness "without which no man shall see the Lord" (Heb 12:14).

#### STILL MORE ABOMINABLE DOCTRINES OF DEVILS

# **6** <u>Examples of false teachings that support the pride of life</u>.

1. Humanistic philosophies that teach a "self esteem" gospel rather than the necessity of esteeming and exalting Christ above all things.

2. Promoting higher levels of education without or rather than a commitment to spiritual growth and a separated life unto God (2Co 6:17).

#### FOR THOSE WHO WANT VIBRANT FELLOWSHIP WITH GOD

### **7** REPENT AND TURN AWAY FROM FALSE DOCTRINES

Jas 4:8 Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse your hands, ye sinners; and purify your hearts, ye double minded.

(Jas 4:6) But he giveth more grace. Wherefore he saith, God resisteth the proud, but giveth grace unto the humble.

(Jas 4:7) Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

1 .Draw nigh to God (humbly by faith, Jas 4:6).

2. Cleanse your hands (repent, 1Jo 1:9).

3. Purify your hearts (renew mind, Ro 12:2).

(Rom 12:2) And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.

#### FUEL YOUR PASSION FOR CHRIST THROUGH LOVING OBEDIENCE

**8 OBEDIENCE** 1Pe 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. 1Pe 1:15, "But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;"

Redemption and salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ frees the believer to obey God allowing the Holy Spirit to do His sanctifying work.

Father God foreknew those who would commit themselves to an obedience path in order to draw close to Him and please Him. They long for personal fellowship with the Person of Jesus Christ and their passion for Him is fueled even greater as they learn to meditate on Him and His Word day and night.

While nominal believers are consumed with various kinds of entertainment and in works that do not bear fruit for Christ and His kingdom, passionate believers pursue intimate fellowship with Christ by a perpetual attitude of prayer, by fasting, and in reading, studying and meditating on God's Word.

GOD'S REMNANT PEOPLE rejoice greatly in seeking Him and His Word.

**9** Jer 15:16 Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O LORD God of hosts.

1Jn 5:3 For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

(Php 3:7) But what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ. (Php 3:8) Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ, (Php 3:9) And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

# **10** PASSIONATE BELIEVERS LIVE AND WALK IN CHRIST

(Php 3:10) That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death; (Php 3:14) I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

**THAT I MAY KNOW HIM**— and "the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death."

**REMAIN FERVENT**, faithful, grateful, and obedient in the valleys of the "wilderness" as well as the mountain peaks of peace, joy, and abundance.

### **11** FUEL YOUR PASSION FOR CHRIST BY FOLLOWING HIM IN EMPTYING YOURSELF AND BY HUMBLY FILLING UP WITH THE MIND OF CHRIST

(Php 2:5) Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Php 2:6) Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

(Php 2:7) But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

(Php 2:8) And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

This faith:

- (1) does not use the carnal mind that is enmity against God (Ro 8:7);
  - (a) practices transformation of the mind by refusing all that is evil in thoughts and deeds (Ro 12:1-2; Jas 4:7; Tit 2:12);
  - (b) replaces carnal thoughts with God's thoughts, words, and ways (2Co 10:3-5; Isa 55:8);
- (2) is constantly in communication with God (1Th 5:17);
  - (a) practices God's presence and dialogue (Mt 28:20; He 13:5);
  - (b) meditates on God and His Word (1Ti 4:13-15).

(Eph 4:1) I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called,

(Eph 4:17) This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind,

(Eph 4:22) That ye put off concerning the former conversation the old man, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts;

(Eph 4:23) And be renewed in the spirit of your mind;

(Eph 4:24) And that ye put on the new man, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

(1Ti 4:13-15) Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all.

**SANCTIFICATION** REQUIRES PRACTICING SCRIPTURAL TRUTHS (FACTS). **PRACTICE** LIVING AND WALKING "IN CHRIST."

#### This personal fellowship with Christ is the most important thing in Christian experience.

Every *"faithful*" believer has life only "in Christ Jesus."

<sup>(1)</sup> The terms "in Christ Jesus," "in Christ," "in the Lord," "in Him," etc., occur 160 times in Paul's writings (36 times in Ephesians).

- (a) "In Christ" means that the believer now lives and acts in the sphere of Christ Jesus. Union with Christ is the redeemed Christian's new environment.
- (b) "In Christ" the believer has conscious communion with his Lord, and in this relationship his very life is seen as the very life of Christ living in him.
- (2) Ga 2:20, I AM CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST
  - (a) God's faithful describe their relationship to Christ in terms of a profound personal attachment to and reliance upon their Lord.
  - (b) The faithful in Christ live their lives in intimate union with their Lord both in His death and resurrection.
  - (c) All believers have been crucified with Christ on the cross. They have died to the law as a means of salvation and now should and can live through Christ unto God (Gal 2:19).
  - (d) Because of salvation in Christ, sin no longer has dominion over them (Rom 6:4 Rom 6:8 Rom 6:14 Gal 5:24 Gal 6:14 Col 2:12 Col 2:20).
- (3) Rom 6:11, RECKON ... YOURSELVES TO BE DEAD INDEED UNTO SIN. The fundamental premise in ch. 6 is the believer's union with Christ in both His death and life. therefore, if you are a true believer, <u>YOU HAVE DIED TO SIN, AND YOU NEED TO</u> **RECKON WITH THIS FACT.** You have died to sin in three different ways.
  - (a) You died to sin in God's sight. You are considered by God to have died with Christ on the cross and to have been raised up in His resurrection.
  - (b) We who have been crucified with Christ <u>MUST</u> now live with Him in His resurrection life.
    - (i) Christ and His strength now dwell within us, being the source of all life and the center of all our thoughts, words, and deeds (Joh 15:1-6; Eph 3:17).
    - (ii) It is through the Holy Spirit that the risen life of Christ is continually communicated to us (Joh 16:13-14; Rom 8:10-11).
  - (c) Our sharing in Christ's death and resurrection is appropriated through faith, i.e., the belief, confidence, love, devotion, and loyalty we have in the Son of God, who loved us and gave Himself for us (cf. Joh 3:16). This living by faith is seen as living by the Spirit (Gal 3:3; Gal 5:25; Rom 8:9-11).
- (4) Union with Christ comes as a gift of God through **<u>FAITH</u>**.

"For whom he did foreknow, he also did predestinate to be conformed to the image of his Son, that he might be the firstborn among many brethren. Moreover whom he did predestinate, them he also called: and whom he called, them he also justified: and whom he justified, them he also glorified."

#### SANCTIFIED-OBEDIENCE-BLOOD OF CHRIST-GRACE AND PEACE

**12** (1Pe 1:2) Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied. (2Pe 1:2) Grace and peace be multiplied unto you through the knowledge of God, and of Jesus our Lord.

(Eph 4:1) I therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy of the vocation wherewith ye are called, **WITH JOYOUS PASSION**.