

Outline for 12/7/21 Zoom Meeting

I want to first present the situation the church faced through the eyes of the disciples and that would include the commandment from Jesus that they should disregard the gentiles and stick with ministering to the house of Israel

I then want to point out the need for the ministry of the Apostle Paul and what not only the church faced – including his past at destroying the church and from the standpoint of the Jews, how that his ministry conflicted with that of the other disciples

How again they did not receive the same revelation that Paul received, and their response to it.

How Paul even though he was sent to the Gentiles still had a soft place in his heart for his brethren and how we would consider being separated from the Lord Jesus for their sake.

I then want to discuss the importance of every believer gaining as much reward as possible while here on earth, which will qualify him for ruling with Jesus as His bride though the millennium and probably beyond.

Explaining to the believer the requirements necessary to gain a full reward – how to guard against losing what rewards are already achieved and then to just keep on keeping on.

From that overview, looking at the problems that Galatians and the Hebrew church had in slowing down their progress in receiving a full measure of rewards.

I then hope to list the requirements necessary in the life of the believer in order to achieve maximum rewards.

Ok – now to the notes – Look with me at **Matt 10: 5 & following**

Jesus gave them power to heal the sick, cast out demons – preach the kingdom of heaven – If they do not hear, shake the dust off of your feet and move on.

Imagine the mindset – Go to your brethren – ignore the gentiles

Along comes this guy “Saul of Tarsus” - the Apostle Paul and he is preaching to the Gentiles- A Jew of Jews – fully trained at the feet of Gamalia – and he is talking this message to the Gentiles

He had been killing Christians – placing them in jail for their beliefs

think for a moment how that settles with the other disciples - They weren't concerned with the Christians Gentiles anyway

Paul had to not only minister to the Gentiles – He had to gain the trust of the Church people as well as defend himself among the other disciples.

Look at **Acts 21: 9 & following**- don't go to Jerusalem Paul- they won't hear you. Paul's response was **Rom 9;3-6**

Well, let's discuss the importance of every believer **gaining a full measure of reward.**

Why the rewards? Because we will rule and reign with Jesus Christ throughout the 1,000-year millennium reign and probably forever.

1Cor 3:8 - "every man shall receive His own reward based upon his own labor **Col 2:18** let no man cheat you out of your reward- **1st Tim 5:18** the laborer is worthy of his reward Moses looked to his reward **Heb 11:26** – John said in **2nd John 8** "look to yourselves that we do not lose those things we worked for; but that we may receive a full reward. And Jesus said in **Rev 22:12** "and behold I am coming quickly and My reward is with Me to give to every one according to his work

Point = rewards from Him are essential, needful and worth going after

Now – what is essential to receive a full measure of rewards?

Jesus said; It is required that a man be found faithful - NOT SUCCESSFUL – but faithful

Let me read a scripture - Matt 25:14 & following -

Now we have this idea that talents have to do with spiritual things such as directly related to ministry or giving or sharing.

Not so beloved – faithfulness is measured in many, many ways – from praying for the sick to feeding a proper diet to your family – from paying your bills to brushing your teeth – from speaking truth to one another to keeping your lawn trimmed - from giving a soft response from the wrath of another to visiting the sick – from listening to a friend to giving money to a stranger.

Faithfulness is doing what is in front of you. Faithfulness is not just religious things. Faithfulness is eating properly to following the laws of the land.

The talents Jesus talks about in Matt 25 are not just religious things like witnessing, sharing, or giving or praying or reading your bible.

Talents are everyday things that we have responsibility for not just money – they are balance of things you are responsible for.

Now I must remind ourselves that “faithfulness” is part of who He is. “He is faithful, who will also do it” “His faithfulness surrounds us everywhere “His faithfulness guards us from evil – He is the same yesterday today and forever.

He limits our temptations **1st Cor 10:13** – read it

Now back to Paul and His teachings to the Galatians Church.

Gal 5:7 – read it – You ran well, who hindered you? Comparing their walk with a race - They understood the idea of a race.

Rules – you must stay in your lane (not sure the length of the race) but less than 1 lap – stay in your lane.

Someone has bumped you out of your lane...

The Greek games were in sight to these folks – they understood you must play by the rules, and when the games were over they would receive a reward -

1st Cor 9:24

I run the risk of leaving my lane anytime I put the cart before the horse. Anytime I set about to complete the work of God through the energy of my flesh – Example was Abraham and Hagar.

I run the risk of leaving my lane anytime I adopt the idea that I must **do something** in order to **receive something** from Him

If I am not faithful – He still remains faithful – get the point...

I run the risk of leaving my lane – getting bumped if you will anytime, I adopt the belief that any activity I allow in my life in order to “make Him more pleased with me” or any activity I allow in my life to secure righteousness in God’s sight by my good works

Anytime I adopt the attitude that I can achieve His favor by keeping a set or rules to live by, or eating or drinking certain foods, or keeping certain ceremonial religious ways

Legalists believe that through their behavior either with good **works** or **obedience to God** will affect my relationship with Him.

Legalism was the problem both with the Galatians and the Hebrew Church.

Paul put it this way in **Col 2:20**- thru the end of chapter - Read it

Legalism is the problem most often attributed with folks getting “bumped out of their lane.