

Work It Out

Philippians 2:12-18

Introduction

I Paul's Appeal

- A. He appealed to them as his dear _____ - Phil 4:1; Matt 3:17
- B. He appealed to them as those who had always obeyed:
 - 1. Whether in his _____ - James 1:22; Col 3:22a
 - 2. Or even in his _____ - Col 3:22b-24

II Paul's Command

- A. He acknowledged man's _____:
 - 1. Continue to work out your salvation - Eph 2:8-10; 5:8-10
 - a. With _____ and trembling - Isa 66:2; Ps 2:11; 1Pt 1:17
 - 1. An attitude of the _____ - Isa 66:2
 - 2. An attitude of service - Ps 2:11
 - 3. An attitude of _____ - 1 Peter 1:17
- B. He acknowledged God's _____:
 - 1. For it is God who works in you: - Jn 15:1-2
 - a. To _____ according to His good purpose - Eze 36:26-27
 - b. To _____ according to His good purpose - 2 Thess 1:11

III Paul's Exhortation

- A. Do everything without _____ or arguing: - 1 Cor 10:10
 - 1. So that you may become _____ and pure - Phil 1:9-11
 - 2. So that you may behave as children of God - 1 Pt 2:12
 - a. Without _____ in a crooked and depraved generation
 - b. In which you _____ like stars in the universe - Dan 12:3
 - c. As you hold out the _____ of Life - 1 Jn 1:1-3

IV Paul's Motive

- A. He wanted to _____ on the day of Christ - 1 Thess 2:19-20
 - 1. That he did not run or labor for nothing - Isa 49:4
- B. He was poured out like a drink offering - 2 Tim 4:6-8
 - 1. On the _____ coming from their faith - Rom 12:1
 - 2. On the _____ coming from their faith - 1 Pt 2:4-5
- C. He was glad and rejoiced with all of them - Col 1:24

D. He wanted them to be _____ and rejoice with him - 2Cor 4:16

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Take some time this week to consider the following:

1. What is your motivation for obedience to God? Parents? Boss?
2. What do you think Paul had in mind when he exhorted the believers to "work out their salvation"? From your understanding, what is your part and what is God's part in 1) Salvation and 2) Sanctification?
3. What do you grumble and complain about? Based on Ex 16:6-8, who are you really griping about? Read Num 14:26-29 and 1 Cor 10:10-11. What are the potential consequences for grumbling? What steps can you begin to take to live a more joyful and thankful life in your home? At work? At church?
4. Paul describes believers as those who "shine like stars in the universe". Based on your current spiritual life, would you describe yourself as a 1) Super Nova, 2) Twinkling star, 3) Falling star or 4) Dead asteroid? What would it take for you to burn more brightly for the Lord? Are you willing?
5. Paul's entire life's work was tied up in people, the gospel and God's calling on his life. What is your life's work? How are Paul's priorities being expressed in and through your work?
6. Take a few minutes to ask the Holy Spirit for a heart of
 - 1) Obedience to His Word, 2) Diligence in your salvation, 3) Thankfulness for His blessings, 4) Courage to share the Gospel, and 5) Vision to live for eternity.

BOB HALLMAN - THE EPIC LIFE

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