TRUE SPIRITUALITY

Text: I Cor. 2:12-3:4

Intro. Paul wrote to this church to correct some problems in it. The church was full of envy, strife, divisions, immorality, false teaching, and inconsistency. Paul said, I can't write or address you as spiritual, but as carnal. They walked as men instead of Christians. Some of the members were putting on a show. They tried to mimic and fake speaking in tongues. Paul condemned their trying to act spiritual when in reality they were not spiritual. Some people are still putting on a show. They are trying to appear spiritual, but are walking in the flesh. Notice what true spirituality really is.

I. TRUE SPIRITUALITY IS LIVING FOR THE SAVIOUR.

A. Recognizing God as our Father.
1. We are the children of God by faith. Gal. 3:26
2. We are now the sons of God. I John 3:1,2
3. We are not our own, we belong to God. I Cor. 6:19,20
4. "...But ye have received the spirit of adoption, whereby we cry, Abba, Father." Rom. 8:15

B. Submitting to Jesus as Lord.
1. He isn't our Lord if we do not obey Him. Luke 6:46
2. We are to yield our members to Him. Rom. 6:13
3. "...nevertheless at thy word..." Luke 5:5 Jesus ask them to do something and they did it.
4. Being daily about the Master's business.
1. Each day brings new opportunities for you to do service to and for the Lord.
2. The opportunity comes up to witness, commune, help, and encourage others.
3. His work is very urgent in your life.

D. Becoming what He wants us to.
1. Be a better ambassador. II Cor. 5:20
II. TRUE SPIRITUALITY IS LOVING THE SCRIPTURES.
A. The inspired word of God.
1. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God..." II Tim. 3:16
2. Inspired means God breathed. The Bible is God's word to man.
3. It is the revelation and message of God to mankind.
B. The truthful word.
1. "Sanctify them through thy word: thy word is truth." John 17:17
2. The Bible is a book of truth. God doesn't lie, therefore, His word doesn't teach lies.
3. Listen to God's word, for you will hear the truth.
C. The light and life word.
1. "Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path." Psa. 119:105
2. "...the words that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life." John 6:63
3. The word of God illuminates the mind and understanding of man. God's Spirit convicts us of the truth.
D. The growing words.
1. Studying God's word enables us to grow. II Pet. 2:2
2. We are to grow in knowledge of Jesus. II Pet. 3:18
3. We can show ourselves approved and rightly divide God's word by study. II Tim. 2:15

III. TRUE SPIRITUALITY IS LAMENTING OVER SIN.
A. Jesus weeps over Jerusalem.
1. The people were stubborn and wicked. Matt. 23:37
2. They stoned and killed the prophets.
3. Jesus wanted to gather them unto Him, but they wouldn't allow Him.
B. Nehemiah's heartache over Israel.
1. Jerusalem was wasted and his brethren reproached.
2. He wept, fasted, and was broken hearted. Neh. 1:4, 5
3. He confessed his sins and the sin of the people before the Lord.
4. He got up and did something about it.
C. David's confession of sin.
1. The joy of God's salvation was gone. Psa. 51:12
2. His service to the Lord was hindered and at a stand still.
3. He confessed His sin and asked God's forgiveness. Psa. 51:3

IV. TRUE SPIRITUALITY IS LABORING IN SERVICE.
A. A willingness to serve.
1. "And they came, every one whose heart stirred him up, and everyone whom his spirit made willing." Exod. 35:21
2. Isaiah said, "Here am I, send me." Isa. 6:8
3. The saved want to serve and ought to serve the Lord. We should be willing to do what we can.
B. A heartiness to serve.
1. "And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men." Col. 3:23
2. What we do in our church we should do because we serve the Lord Jesus.
3. Our hearts should be in it. You can tell the difference.
C. A surrender to service.
1. We should unselfishly surrender our time, talent, tithe, and talk to the Lord.
2. We are to submit ourselves to God. James 4:7
3. We are to yield unto Him. Rom. 6:13

V. TRUE SPIRITUALITY IS LEARNING IN SITUATIONS.
A. Learning in afflictions.
1. It was good to be afflicted. Why?
2. That he might learn thy statutes. Psa. 119:71
B. Learning in weakness.
1. Paul wanted a thorn removed.
2. He learned where his strength came from. II Cor. 12:9
C. Learning in sickness.
1. Why was the man blind? His parent's sin or his? John 9:2
2. "...But that the works of God should be made manifest in him." John 9:3
D. Learning in fear.
1. Elijah ran and hid from Jezebel after the Carmel victory.
2. The Lord caused him to rest, fed him for the journey to come. I Kings 19:1-4
E. Learning in failures.
1. Peter denied the Lord. Matt. 26:75
2. He stood as a monument on the day of Pentecost.

Con. What is true spirituality? Many are putting on a good show. They are good actors. You see fakes and frauds as you look real close. I believe this message clearly shows the difference between true and fake spirituality.

Reasons for Thanksgiving

Text: Psalm 95:1-3

Kenneth Click
We should all thank God for many reasons.

T - Temperament (His) II Pet. 3:9
  Truth John 8:32
  Transformation I Thess. 2:13,14

H - Hearing I John 5:14,15
  Help Heb. 13:5,6
  Hope I Pet. 1:3

A - Atonement Rom. 5:10,11
  Assurance John 5:24
  Armour Eph. 6:12-17

N - Now Psa. 118:24
  Nature Psa. 19:1-3
  Nourishment John 6:48-51

  Knowledge Prov. 1:7
  Kingdom Psa. 145:10-13

S - Son John 3:36
  Spirit John 16:8
  Salvation II Cor. 6:2

G - Guidance Psa. 48:14
  Guardianship Phil. 4:6,7
  Generosity Phil. 4:19

I - Inheritance I Pet. 1:3,4
  Increase I Cor. 3:6
  Indwelling John 14:23

V - Vindication Rom. 5:17-19
  Vision Rev. 21:1-4
  Victory I Cor. 15:57

I - Inexhaustibility Jer. 32:37
  Infallibility Deut. 32:4
  Inseparability Rom. 8:38,39

N - Nearness Matt. 18:20
  Nurture I Pet. 5:7
  Nation I Tim. 2:1,2

G - Growth I Pet. 2:2
  Grace Eph. 2:8,9
  Gospel II Thess. 2:12-14

LONELINESS

Sammy Eldredge

Text: Psa. 46:1

Intro. Loneliness is a misunderstood word. We associate it with the word alone. It is a kindred word, but has a different meaning. One can be in a crowd and be lonely.

I. WHAT IS LONELINESS?

A. Cain. (Gen. 4:14-15) was a vagabond.
   1. He was among his people.
   2. He was separated from God.
   3. This in reality is loneliness!

B. Saul in I Sam. 28:6-19.
   1. Saul forsook God.
   2. God then forsook Saul.
   3. Saul, was king. He was rich, powerful, but lonely.

C. Judas's suicide.
   1. Had position.
   2. Was in the company of the elite.
   3. Unforgiven sin drove him to suicide.

II. ANSWER TO LONELINESS.

A. Faith in God's presence.
   1. As long as you really believe in God's presence at all times you are never lonely.
   2. He is a continual companion to those who will trust Him.

B. As long as you believe His promises you will never be lonely.
   1. Every thing going on around you day after day will remind you of Him.
   2. He is coming back for His own.

III. THE RESULTS.

A. If completely alone, you will not be lonely.
   1. Tell the story of the cold dark cell in Vietnam.
   2. Tell the story of the old lady in Sherman on the dark stormy day of the tornado.
   3. The psalmist said, a present help in trouble.

B. Read again the Psalm 1-4.

I WANT TO RECEIVE THE PAPER

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ADDRESS ____________________________

CITY ______________ STATE & ZIP ______________

CHANGE OF ADDRESS____ NEW SUBSCRIPTION____

OLD ADDRESS ____________________________
A LITTLE MIXED UP

Just a line to say I'm living
That I'm not among the dead
Though I'm getting more forgetful
And more mixed up in the head.

For sometimes I can't remember
When I stand at the foot of the stairs,
If I must go up for something
Or if I've just come down there.

And before the 'fridge so often,
My poor mind is filled with doubt,
Have I just put food away or
Have I come to take some out.

And there are times when it's dark outside,
With my nightcap on my head,
I don't know if I'm retiring,
Or just getting out of bed.

So if it's my turn to write you,
There's no need in getting sore,
I may think that I have written,
And don't want to be a bore.

So remember I do love you,
And wish that you were here,
But now it's nearly mail time,
So I must say good-bye, dear.

There I stood beside the mail-box,
With face so very red,
Instead of mailing you my letter,
I have opened it instead.

LONGINGS

Text: Psalm 119:17-20

Intro.
A. A key verse, 20.
B. Jesus holds out this blessing.
   Matt. 5:6
C. The admonition. I Pet. 2:2
D. The text speaks of the INWARD LONGING of one right with God...
   the one that lives in a world of turmoil and disappointment.
   1. His emotional status at the present was I AM A STRANGER IN
      THE EARTH.
   2. He may have reasoned.
      a. I am not accepted by my generation...but I LONG TO
         ENJOY THE WONDERFUL THINGS IN GOD'S WORD.
      b. I have not grown much, but I LONG TO BE SPIRITUALLY
         STRONG to do battle for God.
      c. I may not have done much...but I HAD RATHER BE A DOORSTOP
         IN THE HOUSE OF GOD THAN TO DWELL IN THE MANISIONS OF
         THE WICKED AND DISOBEDIENT.
      d. I am not satisfied with MYSELF, but HOW SWEET ARE THY
         WORDS UNTIL MY TASTE! YEA, SWEETER THAN HONEY TO MY
         MOUTH. V 103; Psa. 42:1
E. Regardless of how you rate yourself
   as to worth, accomplishment, growth, acceptance, if you are a child
   of God you are indwelt with some HOLY LONGING!
   1. Recognize it.
   2. Evaluate it in light of eternity.
   3. Thank God you are not LIFELESS,
      or SPIRITUALLY NUMB, SEARED AS
      WITH A HOT IRON.
   4. Pursue your inward longing!

I. THE HOLY LONGING TO KNOW JESUS AS HE CAN BE KNOWN!
A. Paul wanted to know Jesus. Phil.
   4:8-10

B. Note the HOLY LONGINGS expressed
   in these words.
   1. Knowledge of Jesus.
   2. Righteousness of God in Christ.
   3. His power.
   4. His fellowship in sufferings.
5. That I may grow to be conformed to His death.
C. Learn the Scriptures. John 5:39
D. Apply the Scriptures in obedience.
James 1:22; John 14:21

II. THE HOLY LONGING TO BE LIKE HIM.
A. The Psalmist desire. Psa. 17:15
B. God’s design in the christian life.
Rom. 8:29
C. This of necessity calls for change or transformation.
1. One must be born again. John 3:5
2. One must be made a NEW person.
II Cor. 5:17
3. One must PUT ON or DRESS UP IN CHRIST. Rom. 13:14
4. Job’s faith. Job 14:14
5. Paul writes of the believer’s ASSURANCE. Phil. 3:20,21
6. John writes of this CHANGE as a PURIFYING HOPE. I John 3:2,3

VIII. THE HOLY LONGING FOR HOME.
A. My dad always made it possible for my mother to visit her relatives...but was always anxious to go home.
1. I never knew him to spend a night away from home other than WAITING ON SICK, WORKING AWAY FROM HOME, or IN SICKNESS.
2. When the sun begins to set in the west I LONG FOR HOME!
B. Jesus WENT TO HEAVEN TO PREPARE THE SAVED AN ETERNAL HOME!!
John 14:2,3
C. Abraham LONGED FOR SUCH. Hebs. 11:10
D. Unnamed saints longed for that country. Hebs. 11:13,14
E. Peter tells us that all who have experienced the NEW BIRTH have such awaiting. I Pet. 1:3-5
F. Paul writes of it. II Cor. 5:2-4
1. Do you LONG TO BE FREE from sinful habits?
2. Do you long to know you are saved and safe?
3. Do you long to LIVE VICTORIOUS?
I John 4:4

V. THE HOLY LONGING TO SEE THE SAVED MATURE SPIRITUALLY.
A. Rom. 1:14 Heart’s feelings.
B. Heart’s longing. Rom. 10:1
C. Heart’s concern. Rom. 9:2,3
D. Life’s dedication. Rom. 1:15
E. Holy longing. I Cor. 9:22 SAVE SOME.

VI. THE HOLY LONGING TO SEE EVERY MEMBER OF THE BODY INVOLVED IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THE BODY!
A. Saved to perform. Eph. 2:10; Tit. 3:8
B. The church compared to a human body. I Cor. 12:14-19
C. Excell to the building up of the body. I Cor. 14:12

VII. THE HOLY LONGING FOR REST.
A. Rest from fear, doubt, care, burden, and labor. Hebs. 4:9
1. When my mother died...I cried...
I miss her...she was a spiritual power in my life! Her memory still is! She entered into that much deserved rest! Her body had borne 14. She had been faithful in keeping them all under the sound of the gospel until all made profession of being saved. She had served God until the end.
B. David LONGED FOR THIS REST. Psa. 55:6
C. Rev. 14:13
D. Abraham LONGED FOR SUCH. Hebs. 11:10

100TH ISSUE
THIS ISSUE IS NUMBER 100. WE HAVE ALL BUT 5 OR 6 ISSUES OF THE PAPER AVAILABLE. SEND IN FOR THE BACK ISSUES OF OUR SOUNDING OUT THE WORD PAPER TODAY. WE ASK THAT YOU SEND AN OFFERING TO HELP WITH POSTAGE. WE THANK THE LORD FOR ALL WHO ALLOW US TO USE THEIR OUTLINES, POEMS, AND TESTIMONIES TO HELP SOUND OUT THE WORD OF GOD.
WHAT SERVANTS KNOW

Glen Tropp

Series: Servanthood - A motivating Factor!
Text: John 2:1-11

Introduction:
A. The PURPOSE of John - written that we might believe that Jesus is the son of God. John 20:20-31
B. The PRESENTATION - structure of the book.
1. John 1-12 - The PUBLIC ministry of Jesus focused upon the 7 miracles - all attesting to the fact that Jesus was the Son of God.
2. John 13-17 - the PRIVATE ministry of Jesus with His own.
4. John 21 - the epilogue (conclusion)
C. The PATTERN development of the miracles - 7 miracles.
   1. No. 1 - water into wine. John 2:1-11
   2. No. 2 - heals nobleman's son. John 4
   3. No. 3 - heals impotent man. John 5
   4. No. 4 - feeding 5,000 men. John 6
   5. No. 5 - walking upon the water. John 6
   6. No. 6 - blind man healed. John 9
   7. No. 7 - raising of Lazarus. John 11
D. The perception - V.9 - WHAT SERVANTS KNOW!
   I. Is Jesus Master?
   2. The other side of the issue - we are servants.
   3. What does it mean to be a servant of the Lord?
I. THE SERVANT'S PLACE.
A. The PERCEPTION.
   1. God doesn't command the lost to be a servant.
   2. Only those who know Jesus can be a servant of Jesus.
   3. God calls upon the believer to do this freely and voluntarily. Rom. 12:1,2
   4. A servant's place is at the feet of Jesus where he freely and voluntarily gives himself to Jesus forever.
B. The PLACE of the servant.
   1. Place of ANONYMITY - Name withheld or unknown.
      a. Servants are not necessarily identified but they play an important part.
      c. A servant is just content to be at the feet of Jesus.
      d. If you really want to be great - learn how to serve.
      e. This is the place of greatest freedom.
      f. Not many will know who you are but that's not important - the main thing is that the Master is glorified - by the service we render.
   2. Place of ACTIVITY.
      a. Servant's activity - do as you are bidden. V5
      b. Do we quarrel with Jesus?
      c. Servanthood - simply means obey.
II. THE SERVANT'S PERCEPTION.
A. The FACT V9 There is something that servants know that no outsider will ever know - they know what's happening.
B. The FOCUS
   1. The difficulty that was hard to understand.
      a. They thought someone had made a mistake - they ran out of wine. V3
      b. Be careful how you handle the situations - handle situations according to Biblical perspectives.
      c. We can't handle some things but we can handle how we react to those situations.
      d. Servants are to be helpful and caring - they didn't try to prove who made the mistake but sought to rectify the PROBLEM.
   2. The DILEMMA of what to do.
      a. Situations develop that leave us baffled.
      b. Bring the living Lord into the context of the difficulty.
      c. Commit that difficulty unto the Lord.
III. THE SERVANT'S PRIVILEGE!
A. The SAVIOUR'S PROCEDURE.
THE DEFEAT OF PRIDE

Text: II Chron. 26:16a

Muncey Harris

Introduction:

A. The delivery of Pride.

1. Deep within the human heart is the seed of self-sufficiency that resists humble reliance upon God.

2. It may lie dormant for a long time, but when a person gains a position of power, it can quickly spring up and dominate his life.
   a. When King Uzziah began his reign, he sought the Lord, and his hand was strengthened.
      (1) He was made secure from his enemy by a highly trained army of 307,500 troops and 2600 valiant commanders.
      (2) Jerusalem was a well-fortified city, with catapults that could launch huge stones from the wall and hundreds of archers that could shoot a flood of arrows at approaching enemies.
      (3) Uzziah and his military might was feared throughout the land.
   b. Then, we see the "delivery of pride" in his life - when that "seed of self-sufficiency" began to spring up and dominate his life.
      (1) He felt strong and confident and self-sufficient; then, his self-sufficiency caused him to usurp the right of the priest, and he offered his own sacrifice in the temple.
      (2) Then, in judgement, God smote him with leprosy till the day of his death.
3. So, the "delivery of pride" must be dealt with or, else, we'll find ourselves dealing with...

B. The defeat of Pride.

1. Tonight, let's notice 3 things concerning the "defeat of pride."
   a. The students of defeat.
   b. The start of defeat.
   c. The status of defeat.

I. THE STUDENTS OF DEFEAT.

A. Many Bible Characters were students.
   1. Amaziah, King of Judah, was a student. II Chron. 25:14-22
   2. Nebuchadnezzar, King of Babylon, was a student. Dan. 4:30-34
Living in God's Will

Text: I Pet. 4:1-4 Charles Swilling

I. THE SUFFERING OF CHRIST. V1
   A. His suffering.
   B. His sacrifice.
   C. His submission.

II. THE SAME MIND. V1
   A. The arming.
   B. The agreement.
   C. The aim.

III. THE SEPARATION. V2
   A. The living.
   B. The lusting.
   C. The liberty.

IV. THE SINFULNESS. V3
   A. The past.
   B. The path.
   C. The passion.

V. THE SPEAKING OF EVIL. V4
   A. The strangeness.
   B. The sameness.
   C. The speaking evil.

WHAT IS THE PASTOR?

Text: I Tim. 3:1-7

Introduction:
The Pastor cannot be a winebabbler, immoral, a lover of money or the world. The Pastor should be a studier and a prayer.


I. PREACHER I COR. 1:17
   A. Teacher- by mouth and example
   B. Divider of the Word- rightly dividing
   C. Interpreter of the Scripture
   D. Speaker of evangelism, admonisher, exhorter
   E. Caretaker of a spiritual people

II. FEEDER JOHN 21
   A. Savory unsearchable riches of Christ
      Eph. 3:8; Grace; Cross
   B. Spoon feed the babes. I Cor.3:1-3,
      Heb.5:12-14
   C. Serve meat to the mature
   D. Satisfy the needs of young, teenage, adult
      1. Rich, poor, educated
      2. I Jn 2 speaks of babes, young and mature Christians
      3. The Word of God speaks to all whether a 30 or 80yr. old Christian.

III. COUNSELOR-THE BIBLE HAS THE BEST SOLUTION TO PROBLEMS
   A. Marriage- husband and wife
   B. Family- parents and children
   C. Personal- Spiritual dissatisfaction
   D. Private matters- drinking, loose tongue
   E. Problems are the church's business when they involve members
   F. Pray that the pastor can aid in these areas and have confidence that he can help through Biblical application.

IV. INTERCESSOR- MOSES THE GREAT EXAMPLE
   A. Prayer- sick, sorrowing, spiritual deficiencies
   B. Powerful war against Satan and Demons
      1. Attack members- emotions aroused, depression deepens
      2. Attack church- within, without

V. LEADER
   A. Under shepherd- guide to the sheep spiritually
   B. Responsible to involve all members in church
      1. Put people in most appropriate places.
      2. Offend as few as possible
   C. Discipline-
      1. His own house
      2. The local congregation
      3. Private, public
      4. Doctrinal - Heretical offenses

Conclusion:
The Pastor has more responsibilities than any one man can bear or fill. Pray and support him persistently and earnestly.