THE GREATEST TRAGEDY

Intro: The writer of Luke tells us of an actual account in the lives of two men. One had everything in this life and one had nothing. The one with everything died and went to hell. The one that had nothing died and went to Abraham’s bosom or the place of the saved. Paul tells us that a time will come when the Lord will punish all Christ rejecters. The greatest tragedy that can befall the rich or poor is eternal punishment. It is better to go through this life with nothing and be saved, than to go through this life with everything and die lost.

I. THE SINNER IS LOST.
A. The sinful
1. Paul tells us very plainly and simply that all have sinned against God, Romans 3:23.
2. We are sinners and we have sinned and we will sin against the Lord. Human experience, current events, and others can testify that sin is a hard fact in our lives.
3. One of the greatest testimonies of this fact is death. Study what James said in James 1:14,15. Add to this the words of Paul in Romans 5:12. It is one thing to have a belief, it is another to face the fact of death.

B. The separation
1. Because we are sinful by nature and practice, we are separated from God. Paul referred to the Jews as strangers and aliens to God and His promises in Ephesians 2.
2. This separation is called spiritual death. We do not have spiritual life. We have no spiritual appetite, interest, or concerns.
3. Paul said we are dead in trespasses and sins, Ephesians 2:1. We are void or empty of spiritual life.

C. The selfish
1. The sinful nature moves us to act and live selfishly. We are self-centered and self-willed.
2. We enjoy sin for a season. The flesh loves sin, not God. There is a part of us that cannot be subject to the Lord or His law, Romans 8:6-8.
3. Satan works on the flesh and provokes it. He knows our weaknesses and tempts us in the area of our weaknesses. Study the words of Paul in Romans 7:14-25. There is a great conflict in the saved person.

II. THE SENTENCE IS LONG.
A. The death
1. We are dead spiritually. We cannot fellowship with God because we are dead in sin. Paul said we are dead in trespasses and sins.
2. We will die physically because of sin. Each of us will face death, Romans 5:12. The writer of Hebrews tells us it is an appointment that we will keep, Hebrews 9:27.
3. No one will escape it.

B. The doom
1. We will die physically as long as the Lord tarries His return. This is a fact that we will sooner or later agree with.
2. People do not have to die spiritually eternally. Many choose to remain in their natural condition. The Bible teaches us that the will of God is for all to come to the knowledge of the truth and be saved, I Timothy 2:4-6.
3. Hell and the lake of fire are real. You can follow the rich man’s example. You can also die and go to hell. A lot of religious people are denying the existence and truth about hell. After all is said and done, if they are not saved...
they will die and go to the place they denied existed.

C. The danger
1. You are in danger even right now of this happening to you. Jesus said that you are condemned already, John 3:18.
2. You must flee the wrath of God by repenting of your sins and receiving Jesus as your Saviour. It is so easy and simple to be saved. You must turn in repentance or you will burn in the fires of hell.
3. When you die, you will no longer have the privilege of making a decision. It will have already been made and the Lord will enforce your choice.

III. THE SAVIOUR IS LOVE.
A. The suffering
1. Jesus came into this world to give His life a ransom for all mankind, Matthew 20:28.
2. He came to seek and to save sinners, Luke 19:10. He came to suffer and die for our sins on Calvary.
3. He lived up to the law and fulfilled it for us, Matthew 5:17. This proved that He was sinless and could pay our sin debt.

B. The sacrifice
1. Jesus came into the world to live a perfect life and die in our stead on our behalf to pay our sin debt. He is the only One that can qualify to pay our sin debt, I Timothy 2:5.
2. He bore our sins in His own body on the tree, I Peter 2:24. He willingly died for our sins, John 10:17,18. The sinless Son of God died for sinful sinners.
3. John the Baptist described Him as the Lamb of God that taketh away the sin of the world, John 1:29.

C. The satisfaction
1. When God saw the sacrifice Jesus made on Calvary, He was satisfied, Isaiah 53:11. The justice of God is satisfied. The death of Jesus on the cross is enough for God to forgive us.
2. Jesus can go to God on behalf of man and He can go to man on the behalf of God, I Tim. 2:5. No one else can do this for us. Only Jesus is able to do so.
3. He is the propitiation for our sins. He is our Advocate, I John 2:1,2. Jesus is the covering for our sins.

IV. THE SALVATION IS LIFE.
A. Realize your sin
1. You are a sinner before God, Romans 3:23. This is what you are by nature, practice and choice.
2. Before you can be saved you must admit and realize that you have sinned against God. It is one thing to do this with the mind, but it is another to do it with the heart.
3. No one can be saved until they repent of sin. Repentance and faith are inseparable graces. If you will not experience a sorrow in your heart that you have sinned against God, you cannot be saved.

B. Recognize your Saviour.
1. When you realize you are a sinner, you must receive Jesus by faith. You must trust Jesus to save your soul.
2. Even when people realize they are lost in sin, many think they can do a lot of things to be saved. The only thing that you can do and please God is repent of your sins and trust Jesus.
3. There is only one Saviour. Look at Acts 4:12. Jesus is the only Saviour of all people. You reject Him and you cannot be saved.

C. Repent your self.
2. Every person can repent. Everyone will not repent, but it is something that everyone can do.
3. There can be no redemption without repentance of sin, Eph. 1:7. We are living in a day when people are so full of pride and the world thinks nothing about sin. If you think sin is horrible then think something is wrong with you.

D. Receive your salvation.
1. Salvation is the free gift of God, Eph. 2:8,9. Jesus purchased your salvation with His own blood, I Peter 1:18,19.
2. When you receive Jesus by faith, you are saved, John 3:16. To receive Jesus is to receive salvation. Jesus is salvation.
3. Repentance of sin and faith in Jesus results in the New Birth. We can truthfully say we are saved according to the Bible.

V. THE SPIRIT WILL LEAD.
A. The Spirit convicts.
1. Jesus said He will reprove of sin, righteousness, and judgment, John 16:7-11. No one can be saved without the conviction of the Holy Spirit of God.
2. Holy Spirit conviction is the Spirit making us own up to sin and our need of salvation and drawing us to the Lord.
3. In this condition each person will make a choice. We may choose to repent and believe. We may choose to refuse to repent and believe. The decision is ours and the result of the decision is ours.

OUR GOAL IS TO PRINT OVER 40,000 BOOKS.
B. The Spirit converts.
1. Through the work of the Spirit we are convicted of sin, repent and believe, and are born again.
2. If the Holy Spirit doesn’t convict, we can’t be saved. Much stress is put upon education and knowledge in our day. We need to be educated.
3. More than knowledge we need the conviction of the Holy Spirit and His leadership in our services.
4. Without the work of the Holy Spirit man cannot be converted. He will not even want to be converted from his ways.

C. The Spirit cleanses.
1. Our sins are washed away and cleansed as we confess them to the Lord, 1 John 1:9.
2. God forgives us of sin and we are cleansed of the sins. Only God can forgive the sinner. If He doesn’t forgive, the sinner cannot have fellowship with God. He will not experience the New Birth.
3. It is wonderful to have your sins forgiven and know and experience fellowship with God. Paul said that our sins are forgiven for Christ’s sake or on Christ’s behalf.

D. The Spirit cautions.
1. The Holy Spirit will lead the lost to salvation. He will caution us about the need of being saved before it is too late.
2. As the Spirit convicts, He will always show us that we need to do something now, today, in the present time.
3. People are told not to harden their hearts as they hear His voice. The Devil will try to get you to put it off. The reason why you put it off doesn’t matter, just put it off.
4. The Holy Spirit of God works in the present time. His ministry is always one of urgency and immediate action and response.

From the Philippines:
I have read some of your printed materials, and I discovered personally vast truths about God’s Word. I have seen also how your ministry worked in the lives of many people here in our locality. Praise the Lord for it.

In connection, would you please enlist me as one of your permanent subscribers and please send me all available printed materials you have.

From Ghana:
Please what I want to tell you is that, I have seen a complete change in my ministry and some pastors came to enquire from me where I go to know you and how best can they get some of your useful materials. I have given your address to them and I want to tell you that your name is popular in my area and my prayer is may God inspire through you to produce more useful materials.

LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE
Text: Hebrews 6:1-3
Introduction: We are saved to serve Him and in order to serve Him we must grow as Christians. We must move forward from the new birth to the meat of the Word. God wants us to press toward the mark of living for Him.

WE NEED TO:

I. LEAVE THE WAY OF SIN
Philippians 3:13,14
A. The control of Satan
B. The corrupt ways of sin
C. The curse of Satan

II. LEARN THE WILL OF THE SAVIOR
John 7:17
A. Follow Him.
B. Find joy in Him.
C. Fellowship with Him.

III. LEAN ON THE WORD OF THE SCRIPTURE
Timothy 3:16,17
A. By hearing His Word.
B. By heeding His Word.
C. By hiding His Word in our hearts. Psalm 119:11

IV. LISTEN TO THE WISDOM OF THE SPIRIT
John 16:13
A. He will guide us into truth.
B. He will guard our testimony.
C. He will gather us in triumph.

V. LOVE THE WORSHIP WITH THE SAINTS
Hebrews 10:25
A. Singing together His praises.
B. Serving together in His service.
C. Shouting together His message.

Neal Clark Route 1, Box 48-A, Daingerfield, Texas 75638

From Arkansas:
I would like to say thanks for the great work you are doing. It is good to have a small part in it myself on both sides. I sure appreciate the paper also the books and they are a big help. I would be very grateful if you could send me these books.

From Myanmar (Burma):
I inform you that we received the book Jordan divided, the Healing of the Spring, and Other Miracles of Elisha which you send us. It strengthened us through reading the book in spiritual leadership in each of our churches. We recognized it a very helpful and fitting to handle it for pastoral handbook.

We thank so much for sending us a very precious book beyond expression with tongue. May God bless you in your good service to us and let God multiply your printing books.
TALL STORIES FROM THE HILLS
and
GOOD NEWS FROM HEAVEN

I came from the hills of Lawrence County, Arkansas. I was playing around on this planet when Herbert Hoover was president of the United States. In those days meat was hard to come by. The rabbit suffered most from the scarcity of food. Being a large family we always chose the cheap way of acquiring rabbit meat for the Goodwin table. Instead of shooting with a rifle or shotgun we simply sprinkled snuff on huge flat rocks. When the shy little animals came sniffing along they sneezed and hit their heads against the rocks and all we had to do was pick them up.

Coon hunting was a favorite past time for us boys in the hills. I remember one faithful old coon hound who had provided fun and amusement for many a nocturnal trip. When his feet were worn down until he could no longer walk, we boys would push him in a wheelbarrow. Whichever way he sniffed we rolled him in that direction. He led us to many a tree where a coon was hiding. Coon meat was a delicacy and we did appreciate the faithfulness of this old dog.

I was reared among good, but poor people. Even the land was poor. It usually took two hogs to make a living -- one to hold up a rock while the other rooted under it. Some farmers have been known to sharpen the noses of their sheep so they could graze more efficiently between the rocks. One farmer said it was not uncommon for his horses to get a hernia from pulling a plow through his rocky fields.

While a small boy I often looked at what remained of a brick kiln that at one time operated in the village of Driftwood. I was told by my elders that some of the soil on our hillsides was so poor it had to be fertilized before it would make good brick. One farmer complained his fields were so poor he couldn't raise an umbrella on them.

Everyone knew Tall Stories were not true. They were told as a form of entertainment. Some "Big-uns" were told around campfires. One favorite told over and over was about the big fish whose picture weighed ten pounds.

As a country boy in the hills of Northeast Arkansas I have heard many Tall Stories, but best of all at the age of 17 I heard the glorious Gospel of Christ in a revival at a little country Baptist Church, Pleasant Hill, near Lynn, Arkansas.

As a repentant sinner I received Christ as my Savior and Lord and my whole life and destiny was changed. A peace and calmness came into my soul which defies description. I received assurance in my heart that I was saved and it was a happy occasion.

I was not saved in a church service. There was no beautiful cathedral with stained glass windows and costly carpets. Above was the vaulted sky and underneath was a carpet of green grass and small flowers. The early morning sun was shining through the trees on the rim of the field. It was in the early sunlight of that summer morning that I received Him who is the Light of the world. Hardly realizing it, I found myself singing as I skipped over the hills to the old farmhouse. Later that same morning it was a joy for me to walk down the aisle and tell the people in the little country church that God had saved me. It would not have bothered me if the whole world had been looking on when I was later baptized in Strawberry River.

It is good to be saved and to be in the service of the Savior. "His grace has brought me safe thus far and grace will lead me home." I would not trade my hope in Christ for ten thousand worlds like we live in. In Him there is eternal victory and no poverty to joke about, but eternal riches with Him in glory.

Paul Goodwin 10205 Eva Ln., Little rock, Arkansas 72209

IF THEY BELIEVE NOT THE BIBLE

Text: Luke 16:19-31

Introduction: A real happening of Old Testament time, not a parable: many important facts relative to life after death, life between the death of the body and its resurrection, that there is no passing from heaven to hell, nor from hell to heaven, nor from heaven to earth. It sets forth the fact of death, and of hell, and of heaven and why one goes to hell or to heaven. The focus of this is in verse 31.

One of the end time apostasies is unbelief in the Bible and not accepting it as the rule of faith and practice for our homes, our life, and churches; that the scriptures furnishes the man of God unto ALL good works, II Timothy 3:16, 17. "Moses and the Prophets" was the Bible of the Old Testament time. We now have the complete will of God revealed in the New Testament books. This text and subject suggests many important truths for our consideration; may we prayerfully consider them.

I. THAT GOD'S WORD IS THE BASIS OF TRUE HEART FAITH.

A. This was true of the Old Testament.
1. The Word of God spoken by "Moses and the Prophets" from Genesis to Malachi was the basis of faith in Jesus Christ, Hebrews 1:1.
2. All the prophets from Moses to Malachi testified of Christ and remission of sin by faith in Him, Acts 10:43; Isaiah 53:5,6; II Timothy 3:15.
3. The basis of faith in Christ was the Word of God.

B. Likewise, the basis of faith in Christ for salvation in the New Testament is the Word of God, Romans 10:13-17.

II. THAT FAITH IN THE OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURES IS THE BASIS OF FAITH IN CHRIST'S WORD IN THE NEW TESTAMENT, John 5:39,40, 46,47.

A. The same Word of God spoken by the prophets unto the fathers, "...bath in these last days spoken to us by His Son", Hebrews 1:1,2.
1. Hence, those who claim to believe the Old Testament, yet reject the New, are not sincere.
2. All who believe the Old Testament believe in Jesus, “for He wrote of me.”
3. Some say, “If I could have heard Jesus, I would have believed”, John 1:12.

III. IF THEY BELIEVE NOT THE BIBLE, THEY WILL NOT BELIEVE, THOUGH ONE AROSE FROM THE DEAD.

A. Though the prophets raised many from the dead in the Old Testament, yet the people believed not the Word of God spoken by the prophets; except a few, rather they stoned the prophets, II Kings 4; Matthew 23:38.

B. The people as a whole, believe not the words of Jesus though He raised many from the dead, except a few (the twelve-year old girl, Lazarus, son of a widow, etc.); instead, they crucified Him.

C. They believed not the Word of God spoken by the inspired apostles, and by the churches though they raised many from the dead, except a few, Acts 9: Acts 20.

D. The world did not believe the Word of God spoken by Jesus, though He arose from the dead.

1. This fact proves this text (Acts 1:3), the grave clothes, the empty tomb, the angels, His many appearances to Mary, the other women, Peter, the twelve; the Roman seal broken, He was seen of 500; He came back and taught 40 days about the coming of the Holy Ghost on Pentecost.
2. Yet, the world does not now believe; less than 8% even claim to believe.
3. The world still does not believe the 66 books though it’s confirmed by miracles, even by many resurrections of the dead, Hebrews 2:1-4; though we still preach the Word of God, the world yet does not believe in Jesus.

IV. IF THEY BELIEVE NOT THE BIBLE’S TESTIMONY ON ANY SUBJECT, THEY WILL NOT BELIEVE FOR ANY OTHER REASON OR SIGN.

A. If they believe not the Bible concerning creation, they will not believe science, John 1:3; Hebrews 11:3.

B. If they believe not the Bible facts: of hell, heaven, life after death, the plan of salvation by faith, judgments, etc., they will not believe though one arose from the dead.

C. If they believe not the Bible doctrine unto repentance, they will not believe when the wrath of God is poured out on this earth, Revelation 16:8,9,10, 11.


A. If God had sent Lazarus from paradise, they would not have believed; nor would the world today, II Corinthians 12:1-4.

B. If one was sent from hell, from the dead, in flames, they would not believe.

C. God’s Word, used by the Spirit alone is the basis of faith in Jesus...not signs, gimmicks, shows, entertainments, movie stars, not any of this will win one soul to God; it takes the Word of God, Romans 10:14. The sword of the Spirit.

1. This world needs the Word of the gospel (I Timothy 3:15) according to the great commission, Matthew 28:19,20.
3. The Word of the true gospel alone will germinate faith in Jesus.


A. The world’s unbelief will not change the facts of the Bible; about heaven, hell, judgments, the second coming, life after death, nor any promise of God’s Word to His own.

1. Some say; “But I don’t believe the Bible” but that’s silly; that won’t change anything written.
2. Hell will be just as hot, heaven will be just as joyful.
3. Your unbelief has only made you a liar; by your unbelief, you’ve called God a liar and His Word a lie; this will not help you in the day of judgment.

B. If you believe not the Bible, the very Word of God will be your judge in the last day, John 12:47,48.

Conclusion: Remember the reason the Word of God is the basis of true repentance and faith is because the “...word is the sword of the Spirit,” Ephesians 6:17. The Spirit convicts and opens the hearts of all who are honest enough to receive the Word, both young and old, II Thess. 3:1; Acts 2:41; Romans 10:17. Will you just now believe the Word of the gospel and repent and trust Jesus?

This is one of the sermons in the book THE CHRISTIAN’S JUBILEE by W. Herbert Brown. If you don’t have this book, send in for it today.

W. Herbert Brown P.O. Box 7341, Longview, Texas 75607
GILDINES FOR CHURCH MEMBERS (J)

Text: I Timothy 3:15

INTRODUCTION:
A. The EVALUATION
- What are you searching for?
  1. Someone to believe in.
  2. A group to identify with.
  3. A cause to live for.
  4. Christ and His provisions meet these needs.

B. The EXHORTATION
- These messages are geared to give us the INPUT of Biblical enlightenment in order to get us INVOLVED in a growth process.
  1. INPUT of Biblical enlightenment produces ENRICHMENT.
  2. INVOLVEMENT produces EXCITEMENT.
  3. The Exploration of this series - Good Church Members Are --

I. JEWELS! Malachi 3:16,17
A. The DEFINITION - Jewels refer to one who is highly esteemed or valued.
  1. The CONSIDERATION - Are you highly esteemed and valued as a church member?
    a. What do people think of when they think of you?
    b. Do they have pleasant thoughts?
  2. The CONDUCT of people is linked with this concept.

B. The DISCERNMENT as it relates to Biblical perspectives. Malachi 3:16,17 - Two things are noted in this section which caused this revelation to be made.
  1. "Them that feared the Lord."
    a. Proverbs 1:7
    b. Psalms 110:10
  2. "Those that thought upon His name." - Focus is on the Lord.

II. JOINT-HEIRS! Romans 8:17
A. All - who are saved - are joint-heirs POSITIONALLY.

B. Good church members are joint-heirs PRACTICALLY.
  1. They realize that we're in this thing "together."
  2. There is a "togetherness spirit."
  3. We don't have to be envious or jealous of each other.
  4. We want our brothers and sisters to receive all that God has for them.

III. JOYFUL! Psalms 35:9
A. The AWARENESS - Joy comes from the Greek word Khar ah' and means cheerfulness, calm delight, and gladness.
  1. Joy is a mental response to a pleasurable stimulus.
  2. Joy is an emotional expression of deep satisfaction.
  3. Joy comes therefore as correct focus.

B. The ACTIVITY that produces this joy.
  1. "As a man thinketh in his heart, so is he."
  3. Focus on the Lord in relationship to your fellowship. John 15:11
  4. Focus on the Lord in relationship to your ambassadorship.

IV. JUST! Proverbs 4:18
A. The MEANING - the term just means to be right or fair. It carries with it the idea of honesty.

B. The MESSAGE
  1. This belief needs to be established as the thing to do.
  2. This belief will then affect our BEHAVIOR.
  3. We need to pursue that path with diligence.

THE RISE AND FALL OF OLD KING SAUL

Text: I Samuel 15:16-23

Intro: The account of Saul is both tragic and alarming because it could very easily be ours. "For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith." Romans 12:3

I. THE ANOINTING V17
A. God prefers the humble.
  1. "...be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble." I Peter 5:5
  2. "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." Proverbs 16:18

B. God sees the potential.
  1. Saul's potential was to be the greatest king in the history of Israel.
  2. Potential is no guarantee.

C. God allows choice.
  1. Past blessings do not insure future blessings.
  2. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Galatians 6:7

II. THE ASSIGNMENT V18
A. God's Judgment is just.
III. THE ACCUSATION V19
A. God’s Commands are not open to compromise.
B. God considers compromise evil.

IV. THE ASSUMPTION V20,21
A. Saul assumed that partial obedience was sufficient.
B. Saul assumed his station in life secure.
C. Saul assumed anything done for God was acceptable.

V. THE ANALYSIS V22,23
A. Obedience is preferred to religious exercise.
B. Obedience is preferred to personal sacrifice.
C. Disobedience is rebellion; which is as serious as the sin of witchcraft. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17
D. Stubbornness (insubordination) is as the sin of idolatry. "For it had been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than, after they have known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered unto them." II Peter 2:21

VI. THE AGONY V23
A. Saul’s disobedience prevented him from realizing his potential.
B. Our disobedience prevents us from realizing our potential.

Conclusion: Commit yourself to faithfully following God today. Don’t gamble with your calling from God.

Kenneth Click 2401 W. Bond, Denison, Texas 75020

BEARING THE IMAGE OF CHRIST

Text: Romans 8:29

Introduction:

A. Paul spoke of the believers in the church at Corinth as "Epistles of Christ." II Corinthians 3:4
B. Dr. C.H. Spurgeon preached a sermon from this text entitled, "PORTRAITS OF CHRIST."
C. This is the "Design of the Father, desire of the Son, direction of the Holy Spirit, and delight of the pastor.

WHAT WAS CHRIST LIFE???

I. A LIFE OF HOLINESS IN CHARACTER AND MORAL VIRTUES!
A. At the point of personal faith in Christ one is declared 'righteous' in the sight of God.
1. Romans 4:3
2. Romans 10:10
B. God has designed that we also produce the CHARACTER AND MORAL VALUES OF CHRIST in the body.
1. He was tempted, but He did not yield!
2. He had to say, "Get thee behind me, Satan."
3. He can WORK THE SAME IN US!
   a. I Corinthians 10:13
   b. I John 4:4

II. A LIFE OF OBEDIENCE TO THE FATHER’S WILL IN HIS LIFE.
A. John 6:38
B. As a child, Luke 2:49
C. As an adult, John 9:4
D. John 17:4
E. His submissiveness seen in His PRAYER CONCLUSIONS! Matthew 28:39
F. We, too, "OUGHT TO OBEY GOD." Acts 5:29

III. A LIFE OF RIGHTOUS ACTIVITY!
A. He was acquainted with the four letter word, "WORK!"
B. He was remembered after death as One "Who went about doing good."
C. His life was that of a MINISTER, SERVANT! Matthew 20:28
D. Those who "bear the image of Christ" are WORKERS in His fields!
   1. I Corinthians 3:9
   2. Titus 3:8; I Corinthians 15:58

IV. A LIFE OF SACRIFICE AND SELF-DENIAL.
A. See the Creator as a babe born in an ox stall.
B. See the Creator of the trees...laboring as a CARPENTER’S SON in the small town of Nazareth!
C. See the SINLESS MAN hanging on a tree bearing the CURSE OF SIN!!!
   1. Not His sin!
   2. MINE! YOURS! Galatians 3:13; Isaiah 53:6
D. See the coming KING OF KINGS crowned with THORNS! Spit upon! Worshipped in mockery! HANGING FROM A CROSS that should have been occupied by another!
E. God has "designed" that the saved STOOP TO TAKE THE CROSS before BOWING TO RECEIVE THE CROWN!
   1. II Timothy 2:12
   2. Matthew 16:24
   3. Romans 12:1, 2
   4. II Corinthians 8:9

V. A LIFE OF LOWLINESS.
A. He humbled himself! Philippians 2:8
B. He was the meek and lowly One! Matthew 11:29
C. Romans 12:3; II Corinthians 3:5; 4:7

VI. A LIFE OF TENDERNESS.
A. Stern in denouncing the hypocrites! Matthew 23
B. Affirmative in CLEANING THE HOUSE OF GOD!
C. Tender in forgiving those who come to God in repentance and faith! Ephesians 4:32

VII. A LIFE OF DEVOTION TO GOD.
A. Mark 1:35
B. Luke 6:12
C. Luke 18:1; Matthew 26:41

VIII. A LIFE OF LOVE IN THE GREATEST DEGREE!
A. Galatians 2:20
B. Ephesians 5:25
C. This same LOVE which is inborn in the saved will produce SOUL WINNING AND CHURCH BUILDING AND MAINTAINING ACTIVITY! II Corinthians 5:14
   1. Constrained to present the gospel to all! Romans 1:14-16
   2. Constrained to CARE about the churches! II Corinthians 11:28

Conclusion:

A. This is the ULTIMATE DESIGN OF GOD!
B. This is not a "worked-up" non-lasting "spurt" of religious fever such as seen after a time of spiritual renewal.
C. This is a work of GOD IN THE HEART that reflects in the day-by-day decision making, lifestyle of one SUBMISSIVE TO THE WILL OF GOD, LEADINGS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.
D. This all begins with what is implied in II Corinthians 8:17. THE MAKING OF NEW CREATURES!!!