

Monday, 4 December 2017 1 Thessalonians 2:3-4

For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts.

So difficult to remember that I am playing to an audience of One. The LORD, God, the Almighty has entrusted me to carry His Gospel to the lost, the least and the lonely. I am to be a faithful minister, a worker who correctly handles the word of truth. (2 Tim. 2:15). I am to please Him and Him alone.

Tuesday, 5 December 2017 1 Thessalonians 2:10

You are witnesses, and so is God, of how holy, righteous and blameless we were among you who believed.

Paul is not referring to an audience whom he should desire to preach words to tickle their ears, (2 Tim. 4:3), but to an audience who is called to join with God in judging his manner of life; that it is per the Word of God.

Is my life consistent with the Word? The Body of Christ is the authorized witness whose testimony is valid.

Wednesday, 6 December 2017 1 Thessalonians 2:13

*And we also thank God continually because, when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as a human word, **but as it actually is, the word of God, which is indeed at work in you who believe.***

“Proof of the pudding.” The proof that my belief is genuine is that the Word of God is at work within me to transform me, slowly bring me into conformity with His Word. It is a task that only the Holy Spirit can and does accomplish.

Thursday, 7 December 2017

1 Thessalonians 4:13-15

*Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. **For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.** According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the*

coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep.

Two precious truths here: 1) Jesus died and rose again, we are not of "all people most to be pitied" (1 Cor. 15:19). His victory over death has been certified through His resurrection. 2) What an immense throng will accompany our Lord as He comes for those of us who have not been previously called into His glorious presence. He brings that "great cloud of witnesses" (Heb. 12:1) with Him to begin the eternal celebration.

Friday, 8 December 2017 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

*This is evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be considered worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are also suffering—**since indeed God considers it just to repay with affliction those who afflict you, and to grant relief to you who are afflicted as well as to us, when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with his mighty angels in flaming fire, inflicting vengeance on those who do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.***

Romans 12:19 Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.” What an awful vengeance to be wreaked upon those who refuse His offer. Yes, many will suffer for their affliction of His people, and that is comforting to know that He considers it just, but that is nothing compared to the sacrifice of the Son of God.

Saturday, 9 December 2017

2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

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do not know God and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. They will suffer the punishment of eternal destruction, away from **the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might, when he comes on that day to be glorified in his saints, and to be marveled at among all who have believed, because our testimony to you was believed.**

On the other hand, we who believe will be in His presence and revel in His glory. Finally, we will know, really know, the one true God and His Son, Jesus Christ, whom He sent. (John 17:3)

What a day, what a glorious day that will be. A never-ending, eternal day.

Lord's Day, 10 December 2017 Psalm 119:59

When I think on my ways, I turn my feet to your testimonies;
My ways must drive me to Your testimonies—the only source of truth and guidance for righteousness, peace, and joy.

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The Fellowship of Ailbe, (www.ailbe.org)
Realizing the presence, promise and power
of the Kingdom of God.

VOICES TOGETHER

Daily Meditations from the Scriptures



December 4-10, 2017

Prayer of the week, based on Paul's prayer in: 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. For in him you have been enriched in every way—in all your speaking and in all your knowledge—because our testimony about Christ was confirmed in you. Therefore you do not lack any spiritual gift as you eagerly wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. He will keep you strong to the end, so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.

We thank You, LORD, for the grace, given to us in Christ Jesus. In Him we have been equipped in every way to carry our testimony about Christ; through our speaking, writing and living to those You have given us to serve.

Thank You that we do not lack any spiritual gift as we eagerly await our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. We are convinced that He will keep us strong until the end so that we will be presented to You, blameless and pure on that Day. You, who have called us into fellowship with Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, are faithful.

Praise You, LORD, God the Almighty. **Amen.**

Creational Theology hint for the week--Each Thing

*Bless to me, O God, /Each thing my eye sees. /Bless to me, O God, /Each sound my ear hears. /Bless to me, O God, /Each odor that goes to my nostrils. /Bless to me, O God, /Each taste that goes to my lips, /Each note that goes to my song, /Each ray of light that guides my way, /Each thing that I pursue, /The passion that drives my living soul, /The Three that seek my heart **Anamchara Books. Earth Afire with God: Celtic Prayers for Ordinary Life (Kindle Locations 360-366). Anamchara Books. Kindle Edition.***