

Rememl: vs 1-7

VSI

- In these 1st 7 verses, The name Jesus Christ is mentioned 4X.
- I believe that this assures us that Jesus is the main subject matter
- Jesus is who Paul is writing about.
- Paul has got one thing on his mind, and that is Jesus.
- Our 1st promise of lesson that is laid out; the preeminence of Jesus.
- In Colossians 1:18, "And he is the head of the body, the church; who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead; that in all things he might have the preeminence.
- And that is where I hope we can get to today.
- I want to encourage the brethren this morning that Jesus might have the preeminence.
- That Jesus would be 1st in our thoughts + conversation. Jesus would be 1st in our decisions and questions. Jesus would be 1st in our trials + troubles... Jesus would be on our hearts and mind...
- That we fall further in love with the LORD Jesus Christ.

- Do you remember when you 1st fell in love with your spouse.
- You were young, and didn't have the responsibilities you have now.
- But the thought of your love consumed every facet of your life.
- Your thoughts, your time.
- Everything you did was based or rooted in her or him.
- You would think + dream about your love every moment of the day.
- She had the preeminence in your life.
- Is it possible that Jesus Christ, our savior, our knight in shining armor, who has saved us.

(Rom 5:8) Jesus, who commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.

- Is it possible that Jesus might have the preeminence in our life.

- In these 1st 7 verse Paul mentions his savior 4x ^{of this epistle.}

2 Cor 3:3 4/7

- I wonder how we could score ourselves.

- The bible says, we are "epistles, known & read of all men."

2 Cor 3:3 - "For as much as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of ~~the~~ the living God, not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart."

- I often think "what an amazing person like Paul + Luke + John that God would use to write these epistles, --- we say the bible is complete, its canonized, it cannot be added to ---"

- God is still writing epistles for all of man to read. There's many that will never pick up a bible and read it. But they're reading you from cover to cover.

- What do the 1st 7 verses of our epistle read??

- Paul was Jesus Christ, Jesus Chr,
Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ. ---

- Are more than, before I go any further.

- Some people may say that Christianity should come naturally. --- They say our apple tree make apples. ---

- And if there's not fruit, then there's her root...
- And there's nothing wrong with that...
- There's alot of truth to that...
- (But what I'd like to tell you this morning is: "You've got to try..."
- And this goes for anything... but most importantly... for Jesus Christ to have the preeminence in your life... you have got to try and work at it...
- There's so much out there in this line competing to get your attention, but only one deserves it...
- When this life is over, we'll find out that HE is really all that matters

vs I. Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ...

- To know Paul is to know that this statement is not about him...
- It's not meant to describe him, but to glorify Jesus Christ...
- He's not saying look at me the humble servant...
- But Place your eyes upon my Master, Jesus Christ...

~~...~~
- This is a whole message or book in itself... Jesus Christ, the Master...

- This is a term we are wholly unfamiliar with...
- The days of people ownership are long over in this country...
- We no longer have indentured servants or slavery...
- All employment is for the most part voluntary...
- So I think the senses of the word master or the word servant has been lost in time...
- But just a few things:
 - The Master owns the servant...
- What's strange is that statement is repugnant to us....
- "Nobody owns me!" Right...
- It's free. This is America.
- You see we're programmed to hate servanthood
- However, there's a beauty there for us to experience.
 - "God has chosen the foolish things to confound the wise..."
- To be owned by somebody is of course repugnant. To be thought of as cattle is offensive...
- However, look at the affection a dog gives his master...

- They say a dog is man's best friend...
- A dog would die for his owner...
 - A dog loves his owner...
 - He runs to him as soon as he comes home.
 - He's excited to see him he jumps up and down in joy. He licks his face...
 - He can't wait to be pet, to be scratched, to be talked to.
 - I remember, at one time, we had two dogs: Fifi + Mes.
 - Every morning, they'd greet me.
 - It didn't matter if they were up all night (barking something... didn't matter...)
 - They drag themselves out from underneath the house. Half asleep...
 - Dragging along... but they come out every morning.
 - A dog will protect its master, even to the death.
 - ~~What~~ A dog is a faithful friend.
 - What's amazing is I don't feel worthy of the affection of a dog.
 - He's a dog a filthy mutt, but I'm not worthy of the affection of a dog.
 - He's a servant that wants to need a master to serve + love.

- To see, he's just a mutt, a mazy old mutt, a filthy flea bag that I really don't want to touch me.
- But that poor little dog wants to be loved and wants to love his master.
- He do flips for his master and wait on us every word.
- There's thousands and thousands of stray dogs out there that need a master.
- But we don't want those filthy animals coming around... We another are just yesterday. "Don't feed him", "Don't acknowledge him."

Jesus the master is not like that... We have a master that loves us and feeds us and leads us... He'll take us for a walk. He'll give us attention... He'll protect us... He'll bind our wounds... Jesus is a wonderful master. We have a master that's worth doing flips for... We have a master that's worth getting excited about, ~~be~~ that's worth leaping for joy... We have a master that's worth getting up in the morning to greet... We have a master that's worth loving...

- We are the many unrighteous. We
are the filthy beast with reign
- But our Master is not repulsed by us.
 - He's moved to compassion.
 - He has run to help us.
 - What a master we have!
 - What a wonderful Saviour we have.
 - God commends his love toward us.
 - in that, while we were yet sinners,
Christ died for us.
 - What a Master.
 - My Master went all the way up
to Calvary.
 - He let wicked men drive nails through
his hands & feet for me.
 - He let them jam a crown of thorns
on his head for me.
 - He did it all for me.
 - That's my master. I belong to him.
- Paul, a servant of Christ.
- "We were not redeemed with corruptible
things, as silver and gold...
But with the precious blood of
Christ, as a lamb without
blemish and without spot...."

It's not "Paul, a servant of Christ"
It's Paul, a servant of Christ. Jesus Christ.

Paul, I don't serve the law, I
don't serve Caesar, I don't serve
any man, I serve JESUS CHRIST
the only Lord

vs Paul, -----

called & separated.

1 Cor 15:1-11

Apostleship - def

Calling (Jesus' Message) Doing what you're
born to do.
"Your calling"

- Purpose driven life. -----
- Paul's calling ----- expounded.
- Called to be ... a what?
- Mama? Daddy?
- Here + Now that God has called us for.

Separated ...

"separated to preach the gospel?" "be up separate?"

"Separated?"

Carboys + separation

- This world is on a mad rush to hell...
- Stampede to hell...
- "Horses going to battle"
- Holy Spirit is heaven's cowboy...

- Take you off of that path and put you on the gospel path...



A path in which the foundation is the death, burial, & resurrection of Jesus Christ.

- A path whose end is a celestial city made ~~by~~ by the hands of God.
- - May be long, it may be rough...
- But there's comfort & joy knowing it's the path ~~that~~ that Jesus has set for me..
- A path of purpose
- A path that Jesus put me on
- " " leads me on
- " " is at End
- Separated to a path that's all about Jesus...