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THE BEREANS

ACTS 17:11

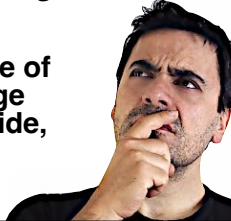
2 Timothy 4:9-22
Lesson #33
Paul's Pastoral Profile
12/17/2023

1

Genesis 1:26

"It is **not good** that man should **be alone**. I will make a helpmate suitable for him."

- This is the first thing that God identifies as "*not good*".
- In Eph.5:32 human marriage is a picture of the ultimate marriage of Christ and his bride, the church.



2



The first negative human emotions expressed in the Bible are

Genesis 3:10


"I was afraid because I was naked; so I hid myself."

fear & shame

from Loneliness

3

"Loneliness and the feeling of being unwanted is the most terrible poverty."




Mother Teresa

4

As Jesus faces his decent into hell on the cross, he quotes from Ps.22.

Matthew 27:46

"My God, my God, why have You forsaken me?"



5

Revelation 21:2 describes heaven as a holy city, a wedding feast, a community of perfect, empathetic, fellowship.


1 Corinthians 13:12

"I will know fully just as I have been fully known"



6

**If Heaven
is a city
of perfect,
empathetic,
fellowship**



**what
must Hell
be like?**

7



23rd Psalm

**“God with us”
Immanuel**

8

Psalm 23


1 The Lord is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
2 He makes me lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside quiet waters.
3 He restores my soul; He guides me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.
4 Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for

You are with me;
Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me.
5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You have anointed my head with oil; My cup overflows.
6 Surely goodness and lovingkindness will follow me all the days of my life,
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.


9

Psalm 23 is about

**what I see
and believe
about my
Shepherd**



**not what I do
or others
do to me**



10

The beginning of Jesus' earthly life
Matthew 1:23
“Behold, the virgin shall be with child, and shall bear a Son, and they shall call His name **Immanuel, which translated means, God with us.**”

The end of Jesus' earthly ministry
Matthew 28
“¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I commanded you; and lo, **I am with you always, even to the end of the age.**”

11

Immanuel in action

- ✓ **Zaccheus (tax collector)** Luke 19:1-10
- ✓ **Samaritan woman** John 4:4-42
- ✓ **Adulterous woman** John 7:53-8:11
- ✓ **Thief on the cross** Mark 15:27-32
- ✓ **Nicodemus** John 3:1-3
- ✓ **Many healed by Jesus**
- ✓ **The heavy-laden** Matt.11:28
- ✓ **Lost sinners** Luke 19:10
- ✓ **God's choice of the weak** 1 Cor. 1:27

12

Immanuel **JESUS**
 (God with us) (God saves)

God came, **and called us to go,**
 looking like us looking like Him.

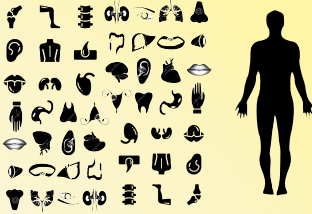
Romans 8:29
 “For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to become **conformed to the image of His Son,**”

John 14:12
 “I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do shall he do also; and **greater works** than these shall he do; because I go to the Father.”

13

We are equipped to manage this life, BUT NOT ALONE.

The church is **NOT the Body Parts of Christ.** The church is the **Body of Christ but only when the pieces function as attached to one another and to the head as a community.**



The body is **greater than the sum of its parts.**

14

The two greatest commands, on which, according to Jesus, all the others depend, are concerned with community, with God and one another
 (Matthew 22:36-40)

Ministering with and to one another is not a distraction from the main thing, it is the main thing.

love one another (John 13:35 - this command comes 16 times)
 be devoted to one another (Romans 12:10)
 honour one another above yourselves (Romans 12:10)
 live in harmony with one another (Romans 12:16)
 build up one another (Romans 14:19; 1 Thessalonians 5:11)
 be likeminded towards one another (Romans 15:5)
 accept one another (Romans 15:7)
 admonish one another (Romans 15:14; Colossians 3:16)
 care for one another (1 Corinthians 12:25)
 serve one another (Galatians 5:13)
 bear one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2)
 forgive one another (Ephesians 4:2, 32; Colossians 3:13)
 be patient with one another (Ephesians 4:2; Colossians 3:13)
 be kind and compassionate to one another (Ephesians 4:32)
 speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs (Ephesians 5:19)
 submit to one another (Ephesians 5:21, 1 Peter 5:5)
 consider others better than yourselves (Philippians 2:3)
 look to the interests of one another (Philippians 2:4)
 bear with one another (Colossians 3:13)
 teach one another (Colossians 3:16)
 comfort one another (1 Thessalonians 4:18)
 encourage one another (Hebrews 3:13)
 pray for one another (James 5:16)
 confess our faults to one another (James 5:16)
 show hospitality to one another (1 Peter 4:9)
 stir up one another to love and good works (Hebrews 10:24)
 employ the gifts that God has given us for the benefit of one another (1 Peter 4:10)
 clothe yourselves with humility towards one another (1 Peter 5:5)

15

Christianity that doesn't begin with the individual doesn't begin. vs 14-21 **Christianity that ends with the individual, ends.**

vs 1a

1. Grace of God deeply sensed

vs 1b-2

2. Cross of Christ willingly carried

vs 3-5

3. Body of Christ rightly discerned

vs 6-8

4. Gifts of the Spirit properly used


vs 9-13

5. Love for the brethren openly shown

vs 14-21

6. Grace & Peace sacrificially given

Paul's Great Commission

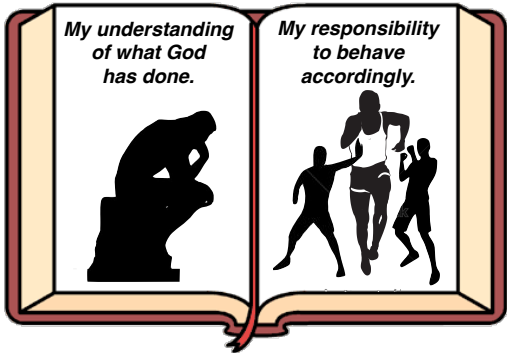


16

Paul's letters

My understanding of what God has done.

My responsibility to behave accordingly.



17

FELLOWSHIP with God and His people reaches the world
John 17:21
 “that they may all be one; even as You, Father, are in me, and I in You, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that You sent me.”

rewards the disciple
Mark 10:30
 “but that he shall receive a hundred times as much now in the present age, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and farms, along with persecutions; and in the age to come, eternal life.”


refreshes the soul
Matthew 4:4
 “But He answered and said, “It is written, ‘Man shall not live on bread alone, but on every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God.’”

18

But why do we so often feel alone?

Satan does not want to take away our faith and hope, he just wants to dictate the **object and subject** of our faith and hope.

Hebrews 11:6
 “Without faith (in God) it is impossible to please God”



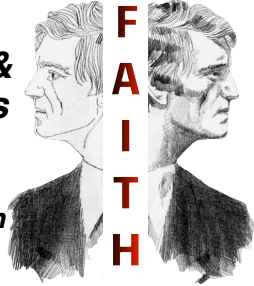
19

Hebrews 11:6
 “Without faith it is impossible to please God”

Signs & Senses **F** **Word of Life**
A
I
T
H

1st Adam & Eve **2nd Adam Jesus**

We invest TRUST in one or the other.



20

We see the world through cultural lenses.

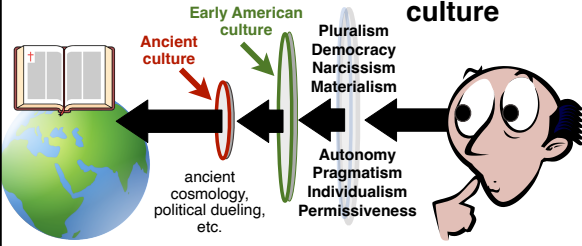
Traditional cultures **Modern American culture**

Ancient culture **Early American culture** **Pluralism**
Democracy
Narcissism
Materialism

Autonomy
Pragmatism
Individualism
Permissiveness

ancient cosmology, political dueling, etc.

“We are tired of hearing about what we should fear and who we should blame.”



21

Take our baptism seriously.



The Enlightenment & Romanticism made it all about this world and “Me.”

Freedom from any external authority

Individual
Achieved roles



My baptism made it all about Him and His kingdom.

Bondslaves of Christ

Community
Ascribed roles

22

Follow the “Chief Shepherd”

1 Peter 5:2-4
 “I exhort the elders to shepherd the flock of God **among you**, exercising **oversight**,

not under **compulsion**, but **voluntarily**, according to the will of God; and not for **sordid gain**, but with **eagerness**; nor yet as **lording it over** those allotted to your charge, but proving to **be examples**

And when the **Chief Shepherd** appears, you will receive the unfading **crown of glory**.”

23

What was Paul’s Pastoral Profile?
He had a clear sense of his calling, message, and responsibility as a part of the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 4
 “11 And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, 12 for the **equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ**; 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a mature man, to the measure of the stature which belongs to the fullness of Christ. 14 As a result, we are no longer to be children, tossed here and there by waves, and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, by craftiness in deceitful scheming;” *2 Tim.1:1*

24

What was **Paul's Pastoral Profile**?

2 Timothy 4

"9 Make every effort to come to me soon; 10 for Demas, having loved this present world, has deserted me and gone to Thessalonica; Crescens has gone to Galatia, Titus to Dalmatia. 11 Only Luke is with me. Pick up Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me for service. 12 But Tychicus I have sent to Ephesus. 13 When you come bring the cloak which I left at Troas with Carpus, and the books, especially the parchments."

He highly values and deeply appreciated the community of the Body of Christ.

"14 Alexander the coppersmith did me much harm; the Lord will repay him according to his deeds. 15 Be on guard against him yourself, for he vigorously opposed our teaching."

He taught and guarded the Christian message and community.

25

"16 At my first defense no one supported me, but all deserted me; may it not be counted against them. 17 But the Lord stood with me, and strengthened me, in order that through me the proclamation might be fully accomplished, and that all the Gentiles might hear; and I was delivered out of the lion's mouth. 18 The Lord will deliver me from every evil deed, and will bring me safely to His heavenly kingdom; to Him be the glory forever and ever. Amen."

He placed his ultimate faith and hope in Christ, not the community.

19 Greet Prisca and Aquila, and the household of Onesiphorus. 20 Erastus remained at Corinth, but Trophimus I left sick at Miletus. 21 Make every effort to come before winter. Eubulus greets you, also Pudens and Linus and Claudia and all the brethren. 22 The Lord be with your spirit. Grace be with you."

He was a spiritual community developer.

26

What was **Paul's Pastoral Profile**?

In short the Apostles modeled the life & taught the message of

Immanuel.

God came,
to look like us

and calls us to go,
and look like Him.

27

This week we celebrate
the Incarnation - God's response
to the loneliness of a world
isolated from its Creator.

Matthew 1:23

"And they shall call
His name Immanuel,
which translated means,
"God with us"."



28

If you are looking for
what to give somebody
for Christmas this year:

"Be somebody that
will help somebody
realize that they
are somebody."

29



30