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**‘God’s Glorious Gospel: The Righteousness God Requires’**

**Message #43 – “Past, Present and Future Assurance”**

**October 23rd, 2016 Text: Rom. 8:9-11**

Keith M. Doyle, Lead Pastor – Winnetka Bible Church

**I. Summary:**

**1. Section #1: The Righteousness God Requires (Chap.1:1-3:20)**

* Romans 3:9-22 – **Summary:** Religious ‘Outsiders’ and ‘Insiders’ are all Under Sin (v.9), Under Law (v. 9), Under Pressure (v.20); Under God (v.21,22)
* There is NO HUMAN SOLUTION…

**2. Section #2: The Righteousness Christ Provides (Chap.3:21-6:23)**

* So if there is NO human solution – **God has a solution!**
* Chapter 5, ‘Fruit’ of Justification by faith…’PEACE’, ’LOVE’, ‘RECONCILED’, ‘DEATH-DISABLED’
* Chapter 6,7 - **‘Living out’** the blessings and benefits of Justification by Faith
* Chap. 6: The believer’s new relationship to remaining sin ***(‘know’, ‘reckon’, ‘present’)***
* Chap. 7: The believer’s new relationship to the Law (You ‘want’ to keep it)

**3. Section #3: The Righteousness the Spirit Produces (Chap.7:1-8:39)**

* We died to the old self and are in union with Christ…3 images in Romans 6 (slave),

7 (marriage), 8 (son)

* This **new union** has a ‘new way’ of living, ***‘…new way of the Spirit’***…(7:6)
  + We can’t love, ‘Bear fruit’ or ‘self-sanctify’ without help
  + We will not face final judgment ***(‘no =*** ***oudon, condemnation’***)
  + So Jesus sends, ***‘another Helper…’ (John 14:***, ***allos parakletos***)

**4. Interrogative Question:**

* **Illus. Parable of the Sower (C/f , Matt.13, 30/60/100 fold) and the parable of the weeds!**
* **Q. *What does the Holy Spirit’s ministry look like in our lives?***

1. **Our Past: Spirit-Love (9), *‘You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit’*** 
   1. **Parable of the 10 Virgins. What was true of all 10 virgins? (c/f Matt. 25:1-13)** From the outside…it can be difficult to distinguish. **Eg.** Weeds parable
   * They were all invited
   * They all professed the Bridegroom as Lord
   * They all believed He was ‘coming back’
   * They were all waiting for Him
   * They all fell asleep while waiting
   * **Apply:** A profession of faith and outward behavior CAN LOOK like evidences of conversion…scariest category in Scripture: the self-deceived
   1. **The Logic, *‘…anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him’* (9)**
   * Self-examination and assurance **Illus.** Who has the control keys?
   * **Paul’s logic:**

* If you do not have the Spirit of Christ you don’t belong to Him
* If you have His Spirit the Spirit will dominate (not the flesh)
* Does your life ‘accord’ with the Spirit – chief characteristic of new birth
  1. **The Meaning**
  + He says then…***’you are not…we are now in the Spirit’* (9)** What has Paul said about unbelievers? What has changed?C/f 1 Cor.2:14; Jude 19
  + **Apply:** This is the radical difference; Holy Spirit has fully ‘invaded’ - first working regeneration and now sanctification

1. **Our Present: Spirit-Life (10), *‘…But if Christ is in you…Spirit is life (alive)…’*** 
   1. **How is *‘your body dead because of sin?’* =** your (‘***soma***’) is actually as good as dead
   * The ‘seeds’ of literal death; C/f Rom. 6,7, 3:23
   * **Apply:** So pamper it…care for it…but keep it in context folks – it will waste
   1. **Paul does this to create a powerful juxtaposition**
   * But something else is going on ‘inside’ you! You are alive by a new source!
   * The Spirit is everything the flesh is not! Sign, seal and security!
   * Some new things we are alive too:

* Alive to God (c/f John 3:6; Rom. 8:4-8)
* Alive to Scripture (c/f 2 Tim.3:16,17; Matt.5:18)
* Alive to His working in us (2 ways this looks) – we ‘belong’ to Christ!
* Implications…spiritual gifts (evidences, c/f 1 Cor.12:31)
* Alive to the needs of others (cf Rom.8:16)
  + **Apply:** Three Tests (Is God real? Is the Bible alive? Are you drawn to others?)

1. **Our Future: Spirit-Longing (11), *‘…He (Spirit)…will also give life…through His Spirit’* (11)** 
   1. **Who raised Jesus from the dead?**
   * The Spirit…the Son (c/f Jn.2:19-22) …the Father (c/f Rom.6:4; Acts 2:24)
   * Why does that matter? Paul tells us why
   1. **A Staggering thought**
   * The ‘longing’ of our new spirit joined to the Holy Spirit – future resurrection;
   * The sanctified will be raised! (c/f Rom.8:29,30)
   * But He, ***‘…will also give life (now)…’*** is working in us now too (giving life, Life-Giver!)…His final work is resurrection

* Briscoe: ***‘Your present sanctification is the guarantee of your future resurrection!’***
  1. **Apply:** If you are a believer today…He indwells you, don’t grieve Him today with your unbelief, or unteachable heart, or indifference to His love…desire Him, treasure Him, pursue Him…

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