**‘God’s Glorious Gospel: The Righteousness God Requires’ Message #68 – ‘The Worst Sort of Pride – Part 2’**

**October 1st, 2017**

**Text: Rom. 11:20-24**

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)
* **Theme: God's Holiness In Condemning Sin**

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

* So if there is NO human solution (Chap.3-5) – God has a solution!
* **Theme: God’s Grace in Justifying Sinners**

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

* This new union has a ‘new way’ of living, ***‘…new way of the Spirit’*** (7:6)
* **Theme: God’s Power in Sanctifying Believers**

**4. Section #4: God’s Righteousness in Salvation (Chap.9-11)**

* Have God’s promises to save failed if there is rampant unbelief?

**5. Review:**

* + ‘Hardening’ and God’s work through redemptive history
  + **Don’t Forget How You Got Here…2 reasons**
  + **Don’t Forget How You Stay Here…**
  + **Illus.** Jesus on religious pride (c/f Matt.16:1-4)
  + (c/f Gen.32) Jacob In the mud of Jabbok: **Christ will cripple the self-sufficient**
  + **Q. *Is it possible to be proud of grace?***
  + My aim is to show you that Paul calls us to ‘look at’ the kindness and severity of God and why it matters

1. **Don’t Forget How You Stay Here *‘…stand fast through faith…fear…’* (19,20)**
   1. **Cultivating Faith**
   2. **Cultivating ‘Fear’…why? *‘So do not become proud but fear’* (20)**
   * **Because we are always in danger…even with ‘good’ things**
     + Insidious means? Eg. Sound doctrine (Eph.4:13-15;1 Cor.8:1)
   * **Because we are prone to comparison (18, *‘do not be arrogant towards…’*)**
     + In context…Jews who had rejected the Gospel

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     + In context…Jews who had rejected the Gospel
   * **Because we are prone to drift away towards performance/works…**
   * ‘Boasting’ in faith (11:22) - ***’Note then….= ‘Behold’…kindness and severity…’*** (22)

* Remember how you got here – mercy; remember how you stay here…grace
  + **Ques:** How are ***‘Faith’*** and ***‘Fear’*** connected to God’s Kindness and Severity?

1. **Don’t Forget Why You Belong Here, *‘…note then the kindness and severity of God…’* (21-24)** 
   1. **God’s dealings are not based on race or privilege (21-24)**
   * It is based on faith…not ethnicity, ***‘God’s kindness to you’*** (21)
   * ‘Abusing’ grace – ***‘grafted branches’*** feeling snug, secure and self-sufficient
     + **Illus.** Ten Virgins – they were not ok!
   * Whether Jew of Gentile – God’s favor is always a matter of grace
   * He can graft back in (natural branches) those He cut off (23,24)
   1. **Implications of (17-24):**
   * Privileges and blessings bring greater responsibility, but they do not indicate superiority
   * Grace gives the Christian a new perspective on failure and ‘success’
   * The failures of men in the past are a warning to us in the present
   * Our response to God’s grace in salvation through Jesus Christ will determine whether we eternally enjoy His kindness or eternally endure His severity
   1. **Kindness and Severity, *‘…note the kindness and severity of God…’* (22)**
   * ***‘Note then’* =** Behold, consider**…**look at both!
     + **Apply:** What does that mean? Look like?
   * Kindness: Gk word = His tenderness, mercy
   * Severity: Gk. Word = His toughness, wrath
   * They sit side by side in Scripture (c/f Matt.10:28-31; Ex.34:6-8)
   * **How are these best seen?**
     + We look at Creation
     + We look at Scripture
     + We look at Christ…we see His goodness and severity…2 comings
   * **Apply:** Grasping both help us maintain faith and fear…
   * **Because we are prone to drift away towards performance/works…**
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