**‘God’s Glorious Gospel: The Righteousness God Requires’ Message #75 – ‘Renovation #2’**

**January 14th, 2018**

**Text: Rom. 12:3**

Keith M. Doyle, Lead Pastor

Winnetka Bible Church

**I. Summary:**

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

* Theme: God's Holiness In Condemning Sin

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

* Theme: God’s Grace in Justifying Sinners

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

* Theme: God’s Power in Sanctifying Believers

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

* Theme: God’s Plan to Save His People

**5. Interrogative Question:**

* + **#5 – God’s Righteousness in Service (Chap.12-16)**
	+ **Illus.** Peter in Luke 5; How should we think about ourselves?
* **Defining humility:** Andrew Murray calls it *‘…the place of entire dependence on God’*
	+ **Q. *What does a transforming life look like?***
	+ My aim is to show you what Paul says how God’s grace enables us to live non-conformed and transforming lives
1. **The Result, *‘…by testing you may discern what is the will of God…’* 2**
	1. **Knowing the Will of God Comes through Testing**
	* **Result: *‘So that…by testing…discern’* =** A mind that is turned upside down by grace. We need this…
	* God will use hard things to work in us and test us – what are some of those ‘hard things’?
* **Illus.** Not getting what you want, relational breakdown, a broken dream
* **Apply:** What bad habit…bad attitude…broken relationship is God’s Spirit working out of you?
	1. **Applying the Will of God Happens Through Spiritual Discernment**
	+ *Moo – ‘Here the meaning is that the Christian’s mind is so being ‘renewed’ by grace that he now, by a holy instinct, can discern, in conflicting cases, the will of God from the will of self…’*
	+ A new control center = surrendering to Jesus as King - *‘Good, acceptable, perfect’* (2) will of God
	+ **Apply:** The Word, Prayer and the Spirit, the Community of faith…God’s tools for direction
	+ **How does all this work out in discerning God’s will?**

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1. **The Risk, *‘For by the grace given me…do not think of yourself more highly…’* (3)**
	1. **What’s going on at the beginning of Romans 12?**
	* Mercy enabled response; first aspect of a renewed mind
	* **C/f 2 Cor.5:17 –** you are new – so become new!
	* Where Paul in going in chapter 12
* **Apply:** He isn’t making suggestions for ‘happy living’ – it’s the radical call of response to the Gospel
	1. **Grace-Transformed Direction, *‘…do not think of yourself more highly…’* (3)**
	+ ***‘Grace given…’*** back to v.1…and Rom.11:32
	+ ***‘Think’* = Gk word = to have a ‘mindset’;** care given (Rom.12:16, *‘high things’*)
* **Not too highly…not too lowly…foundation for humility = Christ and Gospel grace**
	+ **The essence of true humility - C.J. Mahaney quote**
	+ **Scripture assumes self-love c/f (Matt.22:39; Rom.12:16)**
* **Apply:** What could this look like? How well do we listen? When you ‘leave’ a conversation who/what was the balance of discussion about? (c/f Phil.2:3-8)
	1. **Grace-Transformed Estimation, *‘…think soberly…’* (3)**
	+ Actually…to think about yourself…less
	+ ***‘Sober judgment’* = Gk. Word –** ‘discreet, moderate, sober-minded (clear), discipline’
* **Opposite – to behave as a fool, insane beside oneself**
	+ **Examples of Abraham (Gen.18) and Job (Job 42)**
	1. **Grace-Transformed Orientation, *‘…according to the measure of faith God has given…’* (3)**
	+ What does - *‘Each according to the measure of faith…’* mean?
	+ Where Paul is going in this text? (v.4-6)
	+ ***‘To the measure’*** = a standard by which we measure something
	+ We *‘measure’* ourselves by God’s standard = faith (we are recipients of mercy)
	+ **Apply:** *‘Each according’* – being the body; Illus. Matt.25:14-30)
* **If you don’t have a Gospel-shaped view of yourself and your call to serve the body you may be burying your talent…**
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