**‘God’s Glorious Gospel: The Righteousness God Requires’ Message #78 – ‘A New Community’**

**February 4th, 2018**

**Text: Rom. 12:10-11**

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. Section #5 – God’s Righteousness in Service (Chap.12-16)**

* + **Q. *What are the marks of a transformed community?***

1. **A Diverse Community Committed to Love, *‘Be devoted to one another in brotherly love…’* (10a)** 
   1. **V.9 is the headline: Love ‘without hypocrisy/with sincerity’**
   * ***‘Abhor’*** what is evil; ***‘Cling’*** to what is good
   * Implications – sin results in relational damage
   1. ***‘Devoted…Brotherly affection’*:** family bonds;James Boice definition
   * A ‘cloak’ of feelings is a mask
   * Gripped by the truths of Rom:1-11 and implications of 12:1-2
   * We are God’s people, born into God’s family
   * New birth = new life, behaviors fitting of people indwelt by the Holy Spirit
   1. ***‘Outdo one another in showing honor’* (10b)**
   * What’s the difference between ***‘honor’*** and ***‘affection’***?
   * **‘Outdo’ = Give preference:** means *‘to lead or go before’;* Boice explains
   * **Apply:** Do I see them as worthy of my service? Do we prefer to honor rather than be honored?
   * **Apply:** How do we cultivate this? Where is this most difficult?
   * **Gospel realities –** While we were ‘dishonoring Him…He honored us…’
2. **A Determined Community Eager to Serve, *‘Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit…’* (11)** 
   1. **The Grind of Life and the Call of God**
   * c/f Rev. 3:15-16, Am I lazy or indifferent in my spirit and service?
   * Ministry and service can be a grind…
   * Negatively (don’t be slothful in zeal)…and positively… (be fervent in spirit – ‘boil’)

* **Two thoughts:** Be a hard worker…but also feel lots (passion)
* **Summary:** Working hard for Christ WITH zeal/passion/fervency

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  1. **The Source of this ‘Fervency’?**
  + He is the ‘energizer’ for His work **(c/f Col.1:29; 1 Tim.4:16)**
  + Thomas Schreiner quote; Christ’s Gospel, mercy are the Spirit’s fuel
  1. **How do we then serve?** (11, ***‘…serve the Lord’***)
  + All believers are called/gifted to serve
  + We serve as ‘slaves’ not volunteers
  + We don’t serve ourselves

1. **How?** 
   1. How do I burn with affection for other believers I struggle to love?
   2. How do I honor believers when they do dishonorable things?
   3. How do I not be lazy in my service to the Lord?
      * + **Talk**…to yourself – if they are ‘new’ see them as such
        + **Look**…at others with ‘new eyes’
          - Judge your own selfishness, sin, grudge and ask for God’s forgiveness
          - Gaze upon the ‘dishonor’ of Jesus and sheer mercy at the cross
          - Walk in submission to the Holy Spirit
        + **Pray**…you can’t ‘create’ affection and zeal – you need a miracle
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