

Worthy y Name - Stephen's Greek professor

THE WORTHY CHRISTIAN

Col. 1:9-14

INTRO: Alexander the Great --"What's your name?"
Either change your name or change your conduct. His reputation was wrapped up in his name.

Jesus took a great risk, gave us his name, his rep. is wrapped up in our behaviour. THIS IS WHY THE BIBLE KEEPS EXHORTING US TO LIVE LIVES WORTHY OF JESUS. 2 Thess. 1:11; Eph. 4:1 1 Thess 2:12

most people learn about Jesus from you, not the Bible
THE GOAL OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS THE CHRISTIAN LIFE

~~XXXXX~~ A WORTHY LIFE: 1. A life that corresponds to what God has done for us...exhibits God's transforming grace.

2. A life lived in the realization we belong to Him...lived in line with His ownership.

3. His character will be our standard

I. A WORTHY LIFE IS A PURPOSEFUL LIFE --Life lived with A CONTROLLING PURPOSE. This is the secret of any successful life --

Paul --"This One thing I do,,,"

Disciples --"left their nets and followed him..."

~~XXXXXX~~ Jesus --"I am come to do thy will...I have finished the work thou gavest me to do."

1. Vs. 10 "UNTO" Gk prep. indictaing purpose---

UNTO ALL PLEASING... PLEASING-Gk--ready to do anything to please master; not only to meet but to anticipate his most trivial wishes.

2. We're not to be limited by consideration of our duty. a God-Centered Motive

3. The standard of all our conduct, decisions, etc., will this be pleasing to Him. THIS IS THE ONLY CONSIDERATION...THE ONLY DECIDING FACTOR OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE.

4. ALL PLEASING...Everyone pleases the Lord in some ways, but we are to please Him in ALL ways.

5. A Desire to secure His approval in all things.

II. A WORTHY LIFE IS A PRACTICAL LIFE -- The life will manifest itself

These are the ingredients of the Worthy Life. Notice the four participles following -- they give the practical outcome of the WORTHY LIFE -- LIFE WITH ONE CONTROLLING PURPOSE...

Continual Fruitfulness, Continual Growth, Continual Power, Continual Thanksgiving...Can anything be added?

1. CONTINUAL FRUITFULNESS --figure of a tree, that bears every kind of fruit there is.,...ONLY GOD COULD MAKE A TREE LIKE THAT...

"IN EVERY GOOD WORK..."

1. Superabundance of one kind of fruit is no compensation for the absence of another...

2. Barrenness is deadness...like a tree without sap.

3. DEF. "The outward expression of the Inward Nature." Jesus will come through the worthy life.

2. CONTINUAL GROWTH --Increasing in the knowledge of God."

(1) Obedience to the knowledge of God already received brings further knowledge. Obedience to present revelation is condition for additional revelation

(2) This word means FULL KNOWLEDGE, COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE...TO KNOW THROUGH..."

(3) Primarily used concerning the PERCEPTION OF GOD' or the RECOGNITION OF JESUS CHRIST...

3. CONTINUAL POWER --"In every kind of power empowered..."

(1) ALL MIGHT --every kind of power...a strength for every kind of work...NOTE THE "ALLS"

(2) IMPARTED POWER...The Might of God lodged within us.

(3) CONTINUAL --Don't receive an initial impetus that must serve for whole journey...There is a steady flow of Divine energy, like a running engine.

(4) MEASURE of this POWER --According to His glorious power..."NOT ACCORDING TO CIRCUMSTANCES OR TALENT OR ABILITY...GOD HIMSELF IS THE PLDGE OF POWER.

our Resources are measured By The Might of God.

(5) THE PURPOSE OF THIS POWER --

PATIENCE..ALL--ability to bear up under circumstances---sticktoitness --bear up under, keep going in face of hardships.

LONGSUFFERING --Patience with people -- opposite to wrath or revenge

JOYFULNESS --Many have patience and long-suffering but they're sour about it.

IT MEANS LIVING IN ABSOLUTE SATISFACTION WITH JESUS.

4. CONTINUAL THANKSGIVING--Characteristic mark of the Christian...this is the crown of the Christian life, the mountain peak

BASIS--OUR STATUS AS CHRISTIANS....That never changes, no matter what happens.

III. A WORTHY LIFE IS POSSIBLE Every command is a promise.

Vs. 9,10 Pray that you may be filled with ~~xxx~~ ..will so that you may walk worthy....'

1. All perfection consists in DOING GOD'S WILL. Works are nothing if they aren't God's will.

2. Knowledge of God's Will never means a mere intellectual grasping of it, but OBEDIENCE TO IT.

3. TO BE FILLED WITH IT, means ^{to know by experiencing it} its pervades our whole being...NO ROOM FOR ANYTHING ELSE.

4. Every man is filled with something. A Tale of Two Wills

5. OUR WILL IN RELATION TO GOD'S WILL..NO ROOM FOR OURS, ROOM ONLY FOR THE WILL OF GOD...SUBMISSION.