

Principles for Powerful Living

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC

Sunday, March 5th

The Principle of Passion! Col. 3:16-25

1. THE SCOPE OF OUR PASSION. *"Whatsoever ye do..."* Hostis (any) pas (all)

Involves every: Relationship (18-22); Word (vs 19); Work (action) Vs 19

2. THE STRENGTH OF OUR PASSION. *"Heartily..."* (ek psyche: from the soul)

Ecc 9:10 *"Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might..."* (kō'ah: vigor, force, capacity)

3. THE SECRET OF OUR PASSION vs 17 *"Do all in the name of the Lord Jesus"*

vs 23 *"do it as unto the Lord and not unto men"*

A. We Do What We Do For Jesus. This Means:

- 1) When we serve others, we're serving Jesus. Mt 25:40 *"Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."*
- 2) No act or motive is missed. Col. 3:22 *"not with eyeservice, ... but in singleness of heart, fearing God:"*
- 3) Our rewards have an eternal dimension. Vs 24 *"Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward."*

B. Our service is compelling, but not compulsory. Vs 24 *"For ye serve the Lord Christ."*

(douleuō: (v) slave, involuntary or voluntary)

- 1) Involuntary Slavery involves being conquered / captured / sold into slavery. (or born into it)
 - a) All of humanity are born under sin's "bondage" Ro. 3:10; 5:12; 6:23; 8:21-22
 - b) Our actions demonstrate and reinforce this bondage. John 8:34
 - c) We must be redeemed to be free, but we can never work off our debt, so Jesus paid it for us!
Mk 10:45 *"the Son of man came ... to give his life a ransom for many."* (Lk 19:10; 2 Cor 5:21; 1 Pt 1:19; Gal 4:3-7)
 - 2) Voluntary slavery involves indentured service. (Selling ourselves/ labor in exchange for something.)
 - a) Our choices (even after being redeemed) can shackle and enslave us! (Ro. 6:16-18) Heb 12:1,2
"let us lay aside every weight, (on'kos: hindrance) and the sin (hamartia, from hamartano: to miss the mark) which doth so easily beset us, (euperis'tatos: Keep us standing around, detain, thwart) and run with patience the race that is set before us, Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith"
- (1) Lust Pr. 7; 23:27-28; 1Thes. 4:1-7
 - (2) Alcohol Pr. 23:26-3
 - (3) Drugs (Rev. 21:8)
 - (4) Even Food! (Pr 23:2) *"put a knife to thy throat, if thou be ... given to (ba'al: mastered by) appetite."*

4. The Source Of Our Passion. *"The Lord Jesus"*

A. The Example of Jesus Encourages us. Heb. 12:2,3 *"looking unto Jesus..."*

- 1) Twice he cleansed the Temple. (Jn 2:15-17; Mt. 21:12,13) *"the zeal of thine house hath eaten me up".*
- 2) His last days on are known as "his passion"! Luke 9:51 *"he stedfastly set his face to go to Jerusalem"*
- 3) Remember Gethsemane? Luke 22:42-44 *"Father, if thou be willing, remove this cup from me: nevertheless not my will, but thine, be done... And being in an agony he prayed more earnestly (ektenes'teron: fervently) and his sweat was as it were great drops of blood falling down to the ground."*

B. The Spirit of Jesus *Enables* Us. (Acts 1:8)

- 1) The Spirit Transformed the apostles! Phil. 4:13; He can transform us as well! 2 Cor. 3:18
 - a) Enthusiasm from en: (Within) & Theos (God) (See Phil 2:13)
- 2) We must cooperate with Him for this process of transformation. Ro. 12:1,2 *"Be not conformed to this world but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind"* (1 Cor 3:9; Mt. 11:28,29; John 15:4,5)
- 3) This is at the heart of Grace! 1 Cor 15:10 *"But by the grace of God I am what I am: his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God ..."*

Charis: "the divine influence upon the heart, and its reflection in the life; including gratitude)

C. The Love Of Christ *Constrains* Us. (2 Cor 5:14,15) *"For the love of Christ constrains us; (synech'ō: holds together, compels, preoccupies) because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them,"*

Conclusion:

Paul repeatedly compared our lives to a long race. (Heb. 12:1,2; 1 Cor 9:27-27; 2 Tim.7-8)

In Phil 3 he gives his testimony and a type of "before and after" picture. Notice vs 12-15

"Not as though I had ...attained, either were... perfect... but I follow after, (dioko: pursue) if I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward (dioko kata: pursue against opposition) the mark (skopos': goal) for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, (teleios: complete, mature) be thus minded:..."

Application:

What "mark" are you moving toward?

Are you "Pressing" or Drifting?

Roman poet Horace coined the phrase: Carpe Diem meaning to "Seize the day".

We need to embrace a new logo of Carpe deus: "Seize God"!

Phil. 3:12 *"if I may apprehend (katalambano: seize, possess) that for which also I am apprehended"*

See also Jn 15:16

Michael Angelo painted the Sistine chapel ceiling with the creation of Adam at the center.

Notice how he presented God and Adam.



How Passionately are you reaching toward and responding to the one who created, loves and redeemed you?