

Principles for Powerful Living

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Jan. 26th

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)
Eccl 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 (onoma: character, authority) 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 18:5 *“whoso shall receive (dech’omai: accept) one such little child in my name receiveth me.”*
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, as menpleasers; (from ophthalmos’: eye, sight and doulei’a: a slave) It Has the idea of having to be guarded! but in singleness of heart, fearing God:”* (Haplot’ēs: sincere generosity)
 - 3) Our rewards have an eternal dimension. Vs 24 *“knowing that of the Lord (kurios: supreme authority) ye shall receive the reward (antapod’osis: requital) of the inheritance:”*
(klēronomi’a: patrimony, possession) (see Mt 6:19-24; Romans 8:16-18; Rev 22:12-13)
“behold, I come quickly; (Tachu’: suddenly) and my reward is with me, (Misthos: pay for service) to give every man according as his work shall be.”
Eph 4:1 *“I therefore the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you that ye walk worthy (axios: deserving) of the vocation (klesis: invitation, selection) wherewith ye are called”*
 - B. **Our service is compelling, but not compulsory.** Vs 24 *“For ye serve the Lord Christ.”*
(douleuō: (v) slave, involuntary or voluntary)
Roman culture 1/3 of the population were “slaves” and another 1/3rd had once been slaves. (Acts 22:27-28)
 - 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;23; 5:12; 6:23; 8:21-22
 - b) Our actions demonstrate and reinforce this bondage. John 8:34 *“Whosoever committeth sin is the servant of sin...”* (Ro 3:10;23)
 - c) We must be redeemed to be free, but we can never work off our debt, so Jesus paid it for us!
Jn 8:36 *“If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.”*
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.*)
 - Our current job system is a reflection of this.
 - Ex. 21 provides for indentured service for 6 years.
 - Borrowing places us in a type of indentured service. Pr 22:7 *“The rich ruleth over the poor, and the borrower is servant to the lender.”*

a) Our choices (even after being redeemed) can shackle and enslave us! Pr. 5:22,23; Pr 23:26-35

Ro 6:16 *“Know ye not, that to whom ye yield yourselves (Paris’tēmi: stand beside/with) servants (doulos) to obey, (hypakoē’: comply or submit) his servants ye are to whom ye obey; whether of sin unto death, or of obedience unto righteousness?”*

b) This principles can work in our favor as well. Ro 6:17-18 *“But God be thanked, that ye were the servants of sin, but ye have obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine (truth) which was delivered you. (Jn 8:32) Being then made free from sin, ye became the servants of righteousness.”*

We will all serve someone or something! Will that service bring freedom or bondage?

4. The Source Of Our Passion. *“The Lord Jesus”*

A. The Example of Jesus Encourages us. Heb. 12:2,3

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.

(1 Cor 3:9; Mt. 11:28,29; Ro. 12:1,2; Johnb 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 ...”*

C. The Love Of Christ Constrains Us. (2 Cor 5:14,15) *“For the love of Christ constraineth 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:...”

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, redeemed and loves you?