

2 CORINTHINANS 4:13-15 PART 2

PAUL & THE REALITY OF THE RESURRECTION.

REVIEW/INTRO:

READ: **2 Cor. 4:13-15**

1) THE STRENGTH AND RESOLUTNESS OF FAITH: VS. 13

2) THE JOY OF THE RESURRECTION: VS. 14:

- **Knowing:** being fully confident. Having absolute assurance.
- This assurance and expectation of the resurrection was the seed bed of their resolve. See 5:1
- This same assurance sustained the early church and propelled them forward even in the face of horrific trials, sufferings and death.
- They lived out their beliefs that "this world was not their home, not their kingdom.
- Due to our pursuit of our earthly kingdoms many today have forfeited the joy of eternity. Their joy vanishes like the wind. **Rom. 14:17**
- **Raised with Jesus:** "by," "with," "through; His resurrection.
 - Rom.8:11; But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through (or because of) His Spirit who dwells in you.
 - The resurrection of Christ is the pledge and certainty of the resurrection of His Bride..... Just as certain! His life secures our life.
 - Jn. 14:19, because I live, you will live also.
 - This was the truth that sustained and motivated Paul. He did not lose heart.
- **To Present:** to cause to stand, to stand near. (wedding pronouncement)
 - Col. 1:21, 22; And you, who once were alienated and enemies in your mind by wicked works, yet now He has reconciled ²² in the body of His flesh through death, to ***present you*** holy, and blameless, and above reproach in His sight
- The reason the resurrection was so precious to Paul and the early church was because their lives were always at risk, in danger. The hopes of a long life on this earth were very fleeting, fragile and doubtful.
- They lived their lives, built their lives on the truth of the resurrection & eternity. They loved not their lives unto death. Rev. 12:11
- They knew this earthly life was not the goal, it was not the end.
 - (The sky not the grave is our goal) It is well with my soul.

3) THE JOY AND CONFIDENCE OF DIVINE PROVIDENCE: VS. 15:

- **FOR: God is in charge and is faithful to His own... so then;**
- **The resurrection is proof of God's eternal care and faithfulness.**
- **Providence: "To provide, with foresight." the care and superintendence which God exercises over his creatures. Acts 24:2, Heb. 11:40**
- **All things are for your sakes: "on or for your account" for your benefit.**
- **To promote and further their salvation.**
- **The direct context application:**
 - **What Paul suffered and endured in proclaiming the gospel was for their sakes. All his sufferings, all his perseverance, all his deliverances were to their benefit.**
- **The broader context or application:**
 - **God rules, creates, reigns over all to the furtherance of His will and His glory and benefit of His church.**
 - **1 Cor. 3:21, 22; therefore let no one boast in men. For all things are yours: ²² whether Paul or Apollos or Cephas, or the world or life or death, or things present or things to come—all are yours.**
- **All things are for the redeemed whether present or future, temporary or eternal.... Our God Reigns! (Oh what He has prepared for us!)**
 - **Rom. 8:28 For we know that all things work All life even life death are for us, designed and ministered to us by God and in.**
- **Grace Abounding: Super-added. Above the need.**
- **Grace given in our situations, births or brings forth thanksgiving and this thanksgiving brings glory to God.**
- **To the church, Paul's labors, self-denials, and sufferings was grace abounding and overflowing.**
- **This grace causes us to give thanks, causes thanksgiving to rise up in our hearts.**
 - **Eph. 5:20, giving thanks always for all things to God the Father.**
 - **Phil. 4:4, 6; rejoice in the Lord always, be anxious for nothing but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving**
- **God is glorified when the saints are thankful, grateful in all situation, trials or ease.**
- **This phrase, "to the glory of God," sums up all of Paul's design and goals in labors, suffering, preaching and living. All for the glory of God.**

4) PAUL THE EXAMPLE:

- Paul's life experience gave him confidence and assurance; he feared nothing in life or death.
- Paul in the Philippian jail. Acts 16:22-25
- Paul's departure from Ephesus; Acts 20:21-24
- Paul's departure from Caesarea; Acts 21:10-14
- See him before his judges; Acts 24:24, 25.
 - Drusilla: Her grandfather was Herod who tried to murder Jesus as a babe.
 - Her granduncle beheaded John the Baptist.
 - Her father beheaded James the apostle, brother of John.
 - She divorced her husband to marry Felix.
 - This was Felix's 3rd wife.
 - Felix lied, cheated and even murdered his rivals and enemies to promote himself in power.
- But before this corrupt, power hungry, lustful, and powerful man who humanly speaking held the life of Paul in his hand Paul preached. RIGHTEOUSNESS, SELFCONTROL, AND THE JUDGEMENT TO COME!
- Along with the second coming the resurrection was the great all absorbing object of anticipation for Paul and the early church.
- Paul was not only delivered from the fear of death, but also the ultimate deliverance from the second death.
 - 2 Tim. 2:8-10: ⁸ Remember that Jesus Christ, of the seed of David, was raised from the dead according to my gospel, ⁹ for which I suffer trouble as an evildoer, even to the point of chains; but the word of God is not chained. ¹⁰ Therefore I endure all things for the sake of the ^[b]elect, that they also may obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory.
 - Rom. 8:17; if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together with Him,
- Phil. 1:20-24; For I am hard-pressed between the two,

CONCLUSION:

- In my trials, self-denials and submissions to the will of God, am I resolute, believing, speaking and doing?
- Do I look, consider, meditate, and count on the certainty and joy of the resurrection?
- Do I exercise the grace, the super abounding grace given which leads me to thanksgiving?
- 1 Thess. 5:16-18, Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, in everything give thanks, for this is the will of God for you.