

You Are A Blessing - 11/10/19

TEXT – 1 Co 1:2-6 *Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours: 3 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ; 5 That in every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge; 6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you:*

INTRO – Many sermons challenge us to work harder, be more faithful and get right with God. This sermon is to remind us that even with all our shortcomings we can be a blessing and others can be a blessing to us. Paul, writing to the Corinthians believers is writing to correct some wrongs but his first words to them are encouraging words explaining how thankful he was for them.

I. Paul Was Thankful For Their Salvation

A. Salvation is a gift from God – A miracle

Eph 2:1 *And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*

B. Salvation changes behavior

C. Salvation changes your friends

II. Paul Was Thankful For Their Fellowship

Php 1:1-6 *Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to all the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, with the bishops and deacons: 2 Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ. 3 I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, 4 Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, 5 For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now; 6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

A. They were brothers and sisters

B. They were part of the Body of Christ

C. They were joint heirs with Christ

D. They edified one another

• With our words

Eph 4:15-16 *But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ: 16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

III. Paul Was Thankful For Their Faith

Rom 1:8 *First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for you all, that your faith is spoken of throughout the whole world.*

A. Their steadfastness

B. Their faithful witness

C. Their work of faith and ministry

D. Their unity

1 Co 12:12-14 *For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ. 13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For the body is not one member, but many.*

IV. Paul Was Thankful For Their Fruit

A. Utilizing our gifts

Eph 4:11-13 *And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ:*

B. Reaching the lost

V. Paul Was Thankful For Their Love

Phm 1:1-5 *Paul, a prisoner of Jesus Christ, and Timothy our brother, unto Philemon our dearly beloved, and fellowlabourer, 2 And to our beloved Apphia, and Archippus our fellowsoldier, and to the church in thy house: 3 Grace to you, and peace, from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. 4 I thank my God, making mention of thee always in my prayers, 5 Hearing of thy love and faith, which thou hast toward the Lord Jesus, and toward all saints;*

CONCL - I need you and you need me! We are members of the same family.

What hurts you, hurts me and what hurts me, hurts you. I can take pleasure in your victories and you in mine. When you experience trial, I experience them with you and you with me. Together we are the testimony to a lost world. Alone and independently we lose the power and influence of the church, but together we can exhibit the power of Christ to reach a lost world. We are members of the same family.