

“Privileged Opportunity, Pressing Responsibility”

Real Ministry in a Dot.Com World • pt. 27

2 Corinthians 12:11-21

INTRODUCTION

- reticence to accept responsibility

“Many are called, but few get up.”

– Anonymous

1. Privileged opportunity

a. they witnessed God’s confirmation (12:11-13)

- “flash & splash” — NO
- “signs of an apostle” — YES

- + knowledge by immediate revelation
- + inspired by the Spirit unto infallibility
- + man of integrity
- + success in preaching
- + walked & talked a holy life
- + worked miracles

b. they experienced Paul’s consecration (12:14-18)

- “I do not seek what is yours, but you”
- “I will most gladly spend and be expended for your souls”

Emmanuel Bible Notes

September 9, 2001 • Pastor Rob Martini

2. Pressing responsibility

Lk. 12:48

“I believe that every right implies a responsibility; every opportunity, an obligation; every possession, a duty.”

– John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

- core of that responsibility before God: _____
Eph. 1:4

“Sanctification is a neglected priority in today’s church everywhere and a fading glory in the evangelical world in particular... Today, the concern for holiness that was once so striking a mark of evangelical people is largely a thing of the past.... To listen to the sermons and read the books we publish today, you would never know that once the highway of holiness was clearly marked out for Bible believers, and that ministers and people knew it well and spoke of it with authority and confidence.”

– J.I. Packer

- handmaid to holiness: _____

“God is making us holy. But there is a requirement for learning how to submit to God’s authority: humility. We won’t get very far in the development of holiness if we are defensive about our flaws. That is why truly holy people are so easy to be with. They have been around God too long to try to pretend they are perfect. They are the first to acknowledge their pride and their faults.”

– Rebecca Manley Pippert

CONCLUSION

making a difference...

Rom. 9:3