Tuesday PM Nov 8, 2011

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INTRODUCTION

- In the text that is before us, we have almost a microcosm of life. And he's trying to tell them, I want you to make preparations for the kingdom of God.
- Many times when the kingdom of God is used, as it is in this context, it means the heavenly reign of Christ in the hearts of the people.

1 There Must Be Prayer Without Ceasing

1 Thessalonians 5:17

- There must then be an intimate association between the people and God. And so there must be a praying community in this kingdom of God.
- In 1 Thessalonians 5, Paul said, pray without ceasing.
- Just as that lady was consistent, just as she kept on keeping on, that's the kind of prayer life that we have to have.
- Prayer is always in order. There is never a time when it's out of order to stop and pray.
- Will he find this kind of faith is what he's asking. This consistency of faith.

2 We Must Guard Against Self-Righteousness

- He spake this parable unto certain which trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others.
- He didn't pray to God, it was a rhetorical ideal that he gave to God.
- Meekness is strength under control.
- We are a fellowship of forgiven sinners. We have no right to look down on anyone.
- Smote upon his breast, saying, God be merciful to me a sinner. It's my prayer.

3 We Must Develop a Spirit of Humility

- Humility is a funny thing. The minute you say you got it, you lost it.
- Humility is saying, I'm going to do the best I can.
- You have to subordinate yourself to the will of God to become humble.
- Little children, first of all, are instant learners.
- Little children are forgiving. They're wonderfully forgiving.

4 Watch Out for the Pervading Worldliness

Matthew 6:33

- We must watch out for the pervading influence, the pervading worldliness, the pervading infusion of worldliness.

- Worldliness is very subtle. It sneaks in.
- We look at things, and if we're not very careful, things become very important to us.
- Seek ye first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things shall be added unto thee.
- We need to be very careful that we don't let things get in the way of serving God.

5 I'm About to Die for This Kingdom

- Behold, we go up to Jerusalem, and all things that are written by the prophets concerning the Son of Man shall be accomplished.
- This is the Son of God. This is Jesus, the king of the kingdom, that they're doing this to.
- With barely his last breath, he raises himself up in the cross and says, Father, forgive them. They don't know what they're doing.
- He walked almost all day long with two little old men on the road to Emmaus.

THE CHALLENGE

He's waiting for you. With outstretched hands, he says, Come unto me. So why keep Jesus waiting?

MY NOTES