

Sermon Title: The Practice of Pleasing God And Not Ourselves

Sermon Text: Romans 15:1-6

Sermon Purpose: To call the hearer to practice sacrificial love in the area of Christian liberty.

Sermon Proposition: There are 4 pictures provided for the practice of pleasing God over self.

- I. The **mandate** of the strong related to Christian liberty. V.1-2
- II. The **model** of Christ related to Christian liberty. V.3
- III. The **message** of Scripture related to Christian liberty. V.4
- IV. The **motivation** of the glory of God related to Christian liberty. V.5-6

I. The **mandate** of the strong related to Christian liberty. V.1-2

A. The demonstration of **concern** for others. V.1a

B. The demonstration of **disregard** for self. V.1b-2a

C. The demonstration of **edification** for all. V.2b

(Ephesians 4:1-3; Revelation 21:1-4)

Psalm 133:1 <A Song of Ascents. Of David.> Behold, how good and how pleasant *it is* For brethren to dwell together in unity!

Jeremiah 32:38-39 `They shall be My people, and I will be their God; **39** `then I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear Me forever, for the good of them and their children after them.

1 Corinthians 15:28 Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

John 17:11 "Now I am no longer in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to You. Holy Father, keep through Your name those whom You have given Me, that they may be one as *We are*.

II. The **model** of Christ related to Christian liberty. V.3

A. The exhortation to model the **attitude** of Christ. V.3a

Psalm 69:9 Because zeal for Your house has eaten me up, And the reproaches of those who reproach You have fallen on me.

Philippians 2:6-8 who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God, **7** but made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, *and* coming in the likeness of men. **8** And being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to *the point of* death, even the death of the cross.

B. The exhortation to model the actions of Christ. V.3b (**Philippians 2:5-8**)

John 17:5 "And now, O Father, glorify Me together with Yourself, with the glory which I had with You before the world was.

John 4:34 Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of Him who sent Me, and to finish His work.

John 5:18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.

John 6:38 "For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent Me.

III. The message of Scripture related to Christian liberty. V.4

- A. The goal of Old Testament Scripture for the present age is instruction. V.4a
(1 **Corinthians 10:6, 11**)
2 Timothy 3:16-17 All Scripture *is* given by inspiration of God, and *is* profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, **17** that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.
2 Peter 1:20-21 knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, **21** for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.
- B. The grace of Old Testament Scripture for the present age is hope. V.4b
- 1) Persevering patience is the 1st grace. (**Colossians 1:22-23**)
 - 2) Comforting encouragement is the 2nd grace.
Jeremiah 14:8 O the Hope of Israel, his Savior in time of trouble, Why should You be like a stranger in the land, And like a traveler *who* turns aside to tarry for a night?
Psalms 42:5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And *why* are you disquieted within me? Hope in God, for I shall yet praise Him *For* the help of His countenance.
Psalms 62:5 My soul, wait silently for God alone, For my expectation *is* from Him.
Psalms 119:49 ZAYIN. Remember the word to Your servant, Upon which You have caused me to hope.
Ephesians 2:12 that at that time you were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world.

IV. The motivation of the glory of God related to Christian liberty. V.5-6

- A. The believer finds motivation by depending on the divine power of God. V.5
There must be unity in light of the issue on which the Bible is silent or matters from the Old Testament law that may not be valid any longer. This can only be accomplished by God's power over the believers.
- B. The believer finds motivation by proclaiming glory to God. V.6
The whole purpose of mutual acceptance among the Christians is to please the Lord. When we are on one accord and worship God over ourselves, then and only then do we glorify God individually and corporately. The glory is ascribed to both the Father and the Son.
(**Philippians 2:10-11; John 17:21-23**)
John 5:18 Therefore the Jews sought all the more to kill Him, because He not only broke the Sabbath, but also said that God was His Father, making Himself equal with God.
Ephesians 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly *places* in Christ,
Ephesians 1:17 that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him,
1 Peter 1:3 Blessed *be* the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,