

Persuading You To Live for God

2 Corinthians 5:10-11 ¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. ¹¹ Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others.

Romans 6:23 "The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord."

❖ Intro:

- Why are we here today?
- We Are Celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Today...
- The Resurrection is True!
- **And I hope that today... These verses will become impressed upon your mind**
 - Never to be forgotten...
 - Lets read them one more time...
- **Not Going to Spend A lot of Time talking about the Resurrection Today...**
 - A little, but not a lot...
 - I had actual planned to spend the whole sermon on this
- **But I feel very strongly that God has led us in this direction for this morning...**

¹¹ Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, **we persuade others.** (Help them memorize)

❖ We Are Begging You to Listen

- **We Persuade others....**
 - We will look at this more in a minute...
 - But I just want you to know my attitude this morning...
 - I want you to know where I am coming from
- **I am begging you... pleading with you**
 - To hear what God may have to say to you through His word today...
- **I have been told I am a little bit too pushy**
 - Yeah... pushy is the word for me sometimes...
 - Sometimes I really want something so I ask and ask till a person just gives in
 - I am not purposely trying to make them give in...
 - I just think if I ask the right way or give the right explanation or argument...
 - A person will WANT to do this thing...
 - My kids do this to me a lot... and it drives me crazy
 - Often I do not recognize I am doing it...
- **Examples:**
 - Like If I think someone is missing out on something awesome...
 - Like a certain food...
 - Maybe I will keep asking till they try it... Cause I think their life will be better with this...
- **Well.... What I am doing today is Similar...**
 - But... this is not something trivial... This is very important stuff...

- I want to persuade you to hear what God has to say
- I want to beg you to listen to His calling today...
- And I am going to tell you why it is so important that you hear
- And so important that I try to persuade you...

❖ Purpose of Sermon

- **I am hoping that deep inside your heart and mind today**
 - God is working on you
 - He is grabbing on to you
 - And You can feel it... And Maybe you try to push it away and ignore it...
 - But you know it is there...
- **I am praying for the people that are currently living without a REAL relationship with God**
 - Hear Him today...
 - Hear His offer to You...
 - He is calling You
- **I am Praying for the Children of God who are not living a Godly Life in Jesus**
 - You that truly know God but you know you are out of His will
 - You know You are struggling in your walk
 - And it is not God's fault, but it is your unfaithfulness
- **I believe:**
 - That God's Word today is extremely convicting...
 - And although I want you to enjoy your day here with us...
 - And I want you to enjoy your time with your family...
 - I would rather see you in a Right relationship with the God of All Creation...

¹¹Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we persuade others. (memorize)

❖ There Are Some Things We Should Be Afraid Of:

- **So Why are We so adamant that you hear this morning...**
 - Because of the fear of the Lord...
 - The word translated means:
 - Terror, or an occasion of fear, or reverence
 - I do not want to trivialize the meaning of this word here, or the meaning of the author Paul
 - I do not want you to think he dimple means respect...
 - But He means there is something about God that is:
 - ◆ Awe inspiring, and Fear invoking...
 - ◆ Something that causes us to begin some serious self reflection
- **The Fear of the Lord is Something Very Serious...**
 - **Example: On a much smaller note...**
 - Jase riding a horse.... Ready to go and excited... Told me he had ridden before
 - But He was a complete amateur as I later found out...
 - The Horse threw Him...
 - He demeanor before falling off was Excitement and Fun...

- His Demeanor after was one of: Respect, and Awe and Terror for what He was doing...
- He now had a 1100 lb horse between his legs that could top out around 55 mph

➤ **God is Someone that Should Invoke a Certain Fear Within Us:**

- God created the heavens and the earth... with His voice...
- He kicked Adam and eve out of their Home in the Garden
 - Because they ate from the tree He told them not to
- He destroyed the entire world... with water... because they were extremely sinful
- When the King of Egypt would not let His chosen people out...
 - God sent 10 plagues to destroy their land and many of their people
- **And God had His One and Only Son**
 - Beaten and tortured and killed as God's wrath was poured out on Jesus...
 - ◆ Because of the sins of people
- **When He is Ready:**
 - The book of Revelation says that Heaven and Earth will flee from His presence...
 - ◆ Revelation 20:11 ¹¹ Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. From his presence earth and sky fled away, and no place was found for them.

➤ **There Have Been Men Throughout History that have met this God and Understood this fear**

- Paul the apostle was blinded by God as He was persecuting the church
- Josiah learned of Him through His Word and Turned His life and His people's life around
- The Young nation of Israel saw God's anger when they made an idol of God
 - After He brought them out of Egypt
 - As God had 3,000 of His people struck down by the sword

➤ **There is so much more that can be said about God...**

- But know this... He is not a God to be trivialized... He is not a God to mock
- Psalm 50:1 ¹ The Mighty One, God the LORD, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- Psalm 89:5-8 ⁵ Let the heavens praise your wonders, O LORD, your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones! ⁶ For who in the skies can be compared to the LORD? Who among the heavenly beings is like the LORD, ⁷ a God greatly to be feared in the council of the holy ones, and awesome above all who are around him? ⁸ O LORD God of hosts, who is mighty as you are, O LORD, with your faithfulness all around you?

➤ **What Specifically Did Paul have in mind when He says this...**

- That he knew the fear of the Lord...
- I am certain He knew all of this and then more...
- And I am certain that He had this somewhat in mind...
- But I think He makes it clear in the previous verses why we should stand in fear and awe of this God

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil. (Memorize)

❖ **We Will All Stand Before God**

- **Specifically He is talking about Standing before this judgment of Jesus...**

- He says we will all stand before it...
- It is referred to as the Bema seat... and it is a place where the believer will have to give an account
 - Romans 14:10-12 ¹⁰For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; ¹¹ for it is written, “As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall confess to God.” ¹² So then each of us will give an account of himself to God.
- **When We stand there:**
 - It will be a serious time...
 - We will receive what we deserve for what we have done...
- **Thank God through Jesus Christ**
 - We can stand there with full confidence we will not be banished to hell
 - IF we have received Jesus Christ by believing on His name and following Him
- **Do not Trivialize God... (make light of or belittle)**
 - Don't say things like: Me and God got an understanding.....
 - Me and God are tight...
 - And fail to be properly prepared for your absolute date with God...

Romans 6:23 “The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Christ Jesus our Lord.”

❖ **We Deserve Death But Can Have Eternal Life**

- The Reason Paul is so engaged toward begging and trying to persuade men
 - Is because He knows the end result of sin...
 - It is Death... and not just in this world, but in the next

❖ **Resurrection of Jesus is Our Hope**

- **Is Real**
 - Jesus died... and rose up from the grave....
 - Thousands of people saw Him after his brutal torture and murder...
 - A Historical Fact with well documented Arguments of proof
 - Since when do people that die, come back to life... (You know if anyone?)
 - Jesus did... Now We Can...
- **Makes it Possible that We Never See Death**
 - John 8:51 ⁵¹ Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death.”
 - John 11:24-26 ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?”

❖ **Therefore We Persuade Men to Believe**

- Through God's Word and the Proof of His Holy Spirit Living in Me Today
 - I know that we need to be prepared to meet God
- **Are You Prepared?**
 - Just ask that question... then answer it...
 - If your Answer is NO... Knowing God or Not knowing Him does not matter
 - We both need to get right with Him

- Through Repentance and Faith in the Work Jesus did to make us right with God

➤ **So ask questions... seek God**

- James 4:8 ⁸ Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.
- Isaiah 55:6-7 ⁶ “Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the LORD, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.
- Fill out a prayer request form or plan a time to sit and talk with me
- You can fill the thing out in the bulletin and put it into the offering plate