

Guard Your Gifts

The Gifts of God - Week 18 (3-22-23)

Psalms 137

I. Don't Neglect Your gift - 1 Tim. 4:14-15

- A. Neglect = to be unconcerned, Webster - give little attention or respect to
- B. He has given them to us for a purpose - They were meant to be used!
- C. Neglect - Leaves it sitting to deteriorate, leaves it vacant and liable to be stolen (the thief comes), easily forgotten when it's just sitting on the shelf.
- D. Protect your gifts but don't hide them!
 - 1. You don't hide a light under a bushel - Matt. 5:14-16
 - 2. A thief can't easily steal your tools while you're using them

II. The wrong motives and in the wrong way

- A. If the enemy can't get you to neglect your gift, he will try his best to get you to use it for his "glory" instead of for God's glory.
 - 1. King Saul - 1 Samuel 15:10-35
 - 2. 1 Kings 12:1-15
 - 3. Not using the gifts of God in decency and order - 1 Corin. 14
 - a) Always have the benefit of the church in mind when operating in your gifting!
 - (1) Vs. 12

III. Using and Growing in your Gifts

- A. God's will for us - 1 Thes. 4:3-5
 - 1. The Gentiles don't know God, and therefore cannot control their vessel with holiness and honor.
- B. 1 Peter 1:13-2:10
 - 1. 1:16 - "...Be ye holy; for I am Holy..."
 - a) Holy - Sacred, pure, blameless, consecrated
 - (1) Can be interpreted - "Into the holiest"
 - (a) Hebrews 9:6-14
 - i) Verse 8 - Holiest
 - 2. God's plan and purpose for us is to be a more and more perfect reflection of His glory
 - a) Purpose in the New Testament = prothesis - Purpose; plan; setting forth, show exposed
 - (1) Can also be translated Showbread (Heb. 9:2 - same word)
 - (a) Showbread (Bread of the Presence) - 12 loaves set on a pure gold table in two rows. Always placed right next to the Holy of Holies. (Lev. 24:5-9)
 - (b) What made the showbread was its exposure to the presence of God. - Like Moses
 - (2) Romans 8:28
 - (a) "Called according to his purpose (Holiness by exposure to His presence)

(3) 2 Tim. 1:6-9

(a) Not by our works, but by exposure to the presence of God

(b) 2 Tim. 2:20-21

i) If we want to be prepared and fit for the master's use, then we must get ourselves in His presence and allow His holiness to cleanse us.