

You Who Are Spiritual

Int.

1. Aim: To show that true spirituality involves a special kind of living as described by Paul.
2. Many people talk about being "Spiritual"
 - a. Sometimes we are accused of not being very spiritual in our life or worship
 - b. It is often said our worship is dry and boring and not very spiritual because we do not shout and clap our hands and jump and have a lot of physical movement and amens.
 - c. Are these charges correct?
3. In Gal. 6:1 Paul uses a term "You who are spiritual". "Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted." What does that mean?
 - a. In Galatians 5:16 we learn that the spiritual man is one who walks by the spirit.
 - b. He is living as the spirit directs
 - c. A spiritual person is bearing the fruit of the spirit = Gal. 5:22-25 = Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control.
 - d. One may claim to be spiritual and say that other brethren are not. But the test of true spirituality is in the fruit produced.
4. Here Paul explains the marks of a spiritual disciple. Gal. 6:1-10

Discussion**I. A SPIRITUAL MAN WILL SEEK TO RESTORE A FALLEN BROTHER** - Gal. 6:1

"Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted."

A. He is concerned about the lost

1. He can't sit idly by while people who have backslidden perish in sin
2. He has the attitude that God has - 2 Pet. 3:9 "The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance."
3. There is a weight upon him daily. "the care of all the church." 2 Cor. 11:28

B. He will do something for the lost and erring brother

1. "Spirit of meekness" KJV - "Spirit of Gentleness" NKJV = carefully and tenderly
2. Speak truth in love - Eph. 4:15
3. Seek to restore - medical term meaning to set a broken bone.
4. A spiritual person will work to bring a fallen brother back to the proper place.

C. He will look to himself

1. Gal. 6:1 - lest he also be tempted
2. He would not dare get over confident, lest he fall away - 1 Cor. 10:12 "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall."

D. A spiritual person will seek to restore those who have been overtaken in a fault.

II. A SPIRITUAL MAN WILL HELP OTHERS TO BEAR THEIR BURDENS - Gal. 6:2

"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

- A. Bear [not tolerate] Gal. 6:2 = means to bear jointly
 - 1. Burden = load, weight, trouble
 - 2. Lend a hand in helping to lift a heavy load

- B. He will help in many ways
 - 1. Christians should have a closeness of feeling for each other, a feeling of sympathy, especially for those in distress, or in sickness or in death.
 - 2. Goes to the discouraged with caring concern
 - 3. Listens to their case sympathetically
 - 4. Speaks words of comfort - cheer, encouragement
 - 5. Prays to God for this person - James 5:16

- C. This obligation rests upon those who are spiritual.

III. ONE WHO IS SPIRITUAL WILL NOT HAVE AN INFLATED VIEW OF HIS

OWN IMPORTANCE - Gal. 6:3 "For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself."

- A. The chief hindrance to bearing others burdens is that of self-conceit. Paul says that must be removed.

- B. A spiritual man does not deceive himself as to his own strength or worth
 - 1. He tries to see himself as God does - Rom. 12:3
 - 2. This can be a sobering experience
 - 3. False pride will find no resting place in his heart. - Matt. 5:3

IV. THE SPIRITUAL PERSON IS HONEST IN EVALUATING HIS OWN SERVICE

AND CONTRIBUTION TO GOD. Gal. 6:4 "But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another."

- A. He proves his own work
 - 1. Does not rest on yesterday's achievements
 - 2. Phil. 3:13-14 "Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."
- B. It doesn't matter that he gives more or does more than someone else
 - 1. Others are not his standard
 - 2. Jesus is the standard
- C. When he concentrates on his own efforts and shortcomings he doesn't have much time to criticize his fellow - Christians - Matt. 7:1-5

V. A MAN WHO IS SPIRITUAL BEARS HIS OWN BURDEN - Gal. 6:5 "For each one shall bear his own load."

- A. He bears his own burdens in KJV / load in the NKJV
 - 1. Different word for burdens than in v. 2 = responsibilities
 - 2. Each is accountable to God for his life
- B. Learned lesson that every person must shoulder his share of life's load
 - 1. Does not blame others for his problems
 - 2. Will not expect others to carry his problems

- C. Burdens are common to all
 1. Duties to self, family, nation, and God
 2. Burden of sin and imperfections
 3. Each person must deal with sickness, sorrow and dying.

VI. A SPIRITUAL MAN WILL GLADLY SUPPORT THOSE WHO ARE HIS

TEACHERS - Gal. 6:6 "Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches."

- A. 1 Cor. 9:14 - the Lord ordained that those who proclaim the gospel should live of the gospel.
- B. Those who are spiritually immature or carnal resent the adequate support of his teacher.

VII. A BROTHER WHO IS SPIRITUAL UNDERSTANDS THE PRINCIPLE OF

SOWING AND REAPING IN BOTH HIS LIVING AND GIVING - Gal. 6:7-8 "

Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap.

8 For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life."

- A. Cain reaped what he sowed
- B. We will also have a harvest
 1. The thoughts in our heart will produce a crop. - Prov. 23:7
 2. The words we sow will be gathered in the end
 3. Our treatment of others will be returned to us
 4. God will reward your service to him in kind
- C. A spiritually mature disciple will sow to the spirit that he might reap eternal life.

VIII. A SPIRITUAL MAN NEVER WEARIES IN HIS CHRISTIAN SERVICE, KNOWING AND BELIEVING THAT HE WILL RECEIVE HIS REWARD IF FAITHFUL TO THE TASK.

Gal. 6:9 "And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart."

- A. Hard work is out of style in our day
- B. The spiritual man knows that partially done, unfinished work is not acceptable to God
 - 1. Rev. 3:3
 - 2. 1 Cor. 15:58
- C. The spiritually mature will not get discouraged in doing good works.

IX. THE CHRISTIAN WHO IS SPIRITUAL DOES GOOD TO ALL MEN, WHETHER SAVED OR NOT.

Gal. 6:10 "Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith."

- A. He gives his gifts to the just and the unjust - like God
 - 1. Matt. 5:45
 - 2. If his enemy is hungry he gives him food. If he is thirsty he gives him drink.
Romans 12:20,21
 - 3. He is no respecter of persons
- B. He is especially concerned to minister to a brother or sister in Christ - but he reaches out to all.
 - 1. The good Samaritan practiced this - Luke 10:35-37
 - 2. Pure religion - James 1:27
 - 3. The kindness of God's people opens the ears of others so they can hear the gospel.

CONCLUSION

1. Pray daily for divine help that we “may grow up in all things unto him, who is the head, even Christ.” Eph. 4:15
2. You who are spiritual...
 - a. The spiritual man is one who walks by the spirit and demonstrates the fruit of the spirit in his own life
 - b. The spiritual state is reached by a diligent study of the word of God and prayer, and it is maintained by obedience.
 - c. Spirituality is not a fixed or absolute condition. Some do not maintain that spiritual maturity.
 - d. We must “grow in grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” 2 Pet 3:18
3. These are the marks of a spiritual person

Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Morning Jan. 13, 2008
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