

For Sunday May 12, 2019

The Pastoral Epistles

I Timothy 5:24-25 – “²⁴ The sins of some people are conspicuous, going before them to judgment, but the sins of others appear later. ²⁵ So also good works are conspicuous, and even those that are not cannot remain hidden.”

The apostle Paul uses a clear contrast to demonstrate lifestyle truths. He starts with a statement about sins, then contrasts with good works. First, we need to clearly understand what we are talking about.

What is sin?

Theological definition: anything short of God's _____.

Theological explanation: If we were living with the highest possible effort to achieve _____, we would be in full reverse.

Within the context: Characteristic that is apart from the _____ of God.

These sins fit into two basic categories:

1. Those which are “conspicuous” – evident; clear to all
Galatians 5:19-21 identifies sins that are “manifest”
Adultery – marital intimacy outside of marriage
Fornication – perversity; sexually _____
Uncleanness – wholly abnormal in sexual _____
Idolatry – serving anything, or anyone other than God
Witchcraft – drug sourced magic, divinations, or spiritism
Hatred – Feuding; _____
Variance – Quarrelsome; always on the fight
Emulations – Indignation; malicious jealousy
Wrath – Rage; deep seated _____
Strife – Fighting from utter _____
Seditions – Bitter separations; hate filled breaking of fellowship
Heresies – A religious sect pursuing doctrines that appeal to themselves
Envy-ing- Spite, Jealousy
Drunkenness – overindulgence with alcohol
Reveling - Lewd and sensual _____ (Carnaval, or Mardi Gras)
2. Those which “appear later” – not known until the day of judgment
Matthew 5:21-48

“So also *are* good works.” What are these?

Theological definition: Actions that are of quality in God’s _____

Theological explanation: These are the elements of life that please our God because they are of value to Him, and they reflect _____ to Him.

Within the context: Exhibitions of _____

These behaviors are also slotted into two categories:

1. Those which are “conspicuous” – evident; clear to all

Colossians 3:12-16ff

Bowels of mercies – genuine compassion

Kindness – gentle _____

Humbleness of mind – modesty; low view of self before God

Meekness – mild mannered

Longsuffering - _____

Forbearing one another – Suffer another for a long time

(The following phrase is timelessly relevant: “if any man have a quarrel against any: even as Christ forgave you, so also do ye.”)

ETC. ETC. ETC.

2. Those which are not conspicuous, “cannot remain hidden.” You cannot conceal righteousness.

Galatians 5:22-23

Fruit of the Spirit isn’t our goal, rather it is a byproduct of obedience as we work toward the goal of exalting our God.

Love – Generous move by one for the benefit of another

Joy – Soul satisfying gladness

Peace – tranquility of _____

Longsuffering – Very slow to retaliate against hurts

Gentleness – Kindness; _____

Goodness – Generosity; giving of self

Faith – Commitment of belief

Meekness – Mild mannered (Same word used in Colossians 3)

Temperance – The ability to _____ yourself despite sinful impulses