

Revelation Series

Messages by Dr. Holloway

Notes & Power Point Pastor Gangwer

Marks of a Great Church

It was a great church:

IV. Because of its _____ – (Patience) – Revelation 2:2.

- A. The idea of maturity here is the idea of the _____ to do something, but choosing not to do so.
 - 1. You have the opportunity to get even with someone but you _____ not to do so.
 - 2. You have the right to _____ someone and here again you choose not to do so. (I Cor. 6:1-7)
 - 3. What it comes down to in many cases is one's rights versus one's _____ as a Believer.
 - 4. The cross was the greatest _____ of maturity in all of human history.
 - 5. Stephen in Acts 7:60 also displayed a great deal of spiritual _____ especially in death.
 - 6. Maturity is the power/rights under control so that God will be _____.
- B. Maturity is a mark of a great church regardless of its size; a people who respond with patience.
- C. Maturity is _____ to God's leadership and how we handle life's circumstances, such as,
 - 1. In both one's preparation for marriage and the exercise of it throughout that marriage.
 - 2. Be it in the church or a marriage in which we could open our mouths or say nothing at all
 - 3. Maturity involves being _____ and waiting upon the Lord as He can do a far better job than we can.
- D. We do not always know what someone or a family is going through or has just been through.
 - 1. _____ makes for a great church and a mature person.
 - 2. It is loving people where they are as God _____ on their hearts and lives as well as ours.
- E. This was a persecuted church dealing with acute persecution from within and without – verse s 2 & 3.
 - 1. "Tried" – for the purpose of ascertaining a thing or person to be _____.
 - 2. Our source for all things true or not, is always the Word of God – Acts 17:10-12.

V. They were a _____ church – (Bear) – Revelation 2:2

- A. Bearing one another's burdens means more than to just help, it also means not _____ away from them.
 - 1. This is the positive side, coming along side of and helping them and _____ it with them.
 - 2. The negative side, as in not bearing with that which is _____ doctrine and evil.
 - 3. In this case (#2) one is practicing _____ – I Corinthians 6:11 – 18.
 - 4. They were _____ to bear that which was evil.
 - 5. Liberal churches usually have a hodgepodge of doctrines and everyone bearing with that foolishness.
 - 6. If 2 John 1:9-11 is true of one's home, how much more so of the local church?
 - 7. Our responsibility as individuals and as a church is:
 - a. II Timothy 4:1-5.
 - b. Titus 1:9 & 2:1
 - 8. There is something wrong with our friendships or fellowships where Christ's name is used vainly!

- B. As we endeavor to live the Bible, (the infallible Word of God,) *something* is going to _____!
1. Separation will begin to take place in our lives and in our ministries.
 2. Separation is not so much _____ people out of our lives as it is living by the Word of God.
 3. When we do this, it is amazing how it will bother others and they will _____ from us.
 - a. Our lives become a source of uncomfortableness or _____ to them.
 - b. Perhaps some will take notice and such conviction will lead to their salvation.
 4. As the Holy Spirit changes lives, our heart's desires begin to change,
 - a. The Word of God begins to change our _____.
 - b. The Word of God begins to change our _____.
 - c. The Word of God starts to change the things that become _____ to us. (I Peter 2:2)
 - d. For these and other reasons those who have no *desire* for God will separate from us.
 - e. For this same reason even professing Christians will also choose not to read the Bible.
 5. As a result, our gravitation will be towards those whose lives are also being _____ by His Word.
- C. Jesus was a _____ of sinners, not so much because of their present circumstances, but their past.
1. When Jesus _____ into someone's life, things change quickly. (Though growth sometimes slowly.)
 - a. Zacchaeus in Luke 19:2-10.
 - b. Matthew 4:18-22.
 - c. The Samaritan woman at the well –John 4:4 – 30
 2. Jesus was a friend of anyone who wanted to change while also a thorn in the flesh to those who don't. Such as we read concerning the religious leaders of His day.
 3. The folks to be concerned about are not so much those with a wicked _____, but a wicked future.
 4. It is not so much where they've been, but where their headed.

VI. Because it could not be _____ – (not fainted) – Revelation 2:3

- A. Sometimes we think we are the only ones _____ the temptation to quit,
1. Truth! Temptation comes to all and is _____ to all – I Corinthians 10:13.
 2. John the Baptist _____ whether Christ was the Messiah – Luke 7:19-23.
 3. Some are _____ – Mary as she was rebuked – Mark 14:3 – 9.
 4. The key to spiritual survival is not the feeling of wanting to quit, but _____ to not quit.
 5. Temptations are feelings which are not necessarily a sin, but _____ into those feelings is a sin!
- B. Sometimes temptation is about being _____,
1. Giving up your favorite spot in the pew for a visitor.
 2. Giving up your favorite parking spot for a visitor.
- C. For a great church, difficulty is a word they get _____ to because ministry is hard when it is done right.
- D. Greatness will always be tempted and tried, but greatness never _____,
1. Greatness is not found in the building, but rather in the _____.
 2. We create the nature of the place we are in by our attitudes.
- E. Question, are we willing to become a great Christian, a great church, a great church member?
- F. This being the case, no matter where we are or how small we may be, it will be the greatest place on earth. There is no place, like this place, around this place, so this must be the place!