

October 1, 2017

Becoming One

ROMANS 15:1-4

We who are powerful need to be patient with the weakness of those who don't have power, and not please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good in order to build them up. Christ didn't please Himself, but, as it is written, *The insults of those who insulted You fell on me*. Whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction so we could have hope through endurance and through the encouragement of the scriptures.

The unthinkable alternative to putting up with the weaknesses of the weak would be for the strong to please themselves. Paul implies the scrupulosity, poverty, and lack of social status of the weak are burdens to be borne by the strong. If the weak need to be reminded of their deficiency in faith, the strong in faith need to be reminded that an excess of faith will never compensate for a deficiency in love. Paul warned the knowledgeable of Corinth, "Knowledge puffs us, but love builds up" 1 Corinthians 8:1. (George Lyons, 2008).

True interpretation of Scripture leads us into unqualified giving of our lives in service within the community whose vocation is to reenact the obedience of the Son of God Who loved us and gave Himself for us. Scripture may not be read legitimately for information alone; its object is transformation (Hays, 1993).

The Bible, is the earlier part of the story we ourselves are living in, explaining the roots from which we have grown. Or, if you like, it gives us the foundation on which, despite appearances, we can build securely for the future (NT Wright, 2004).

Next week: In Relationship—With Jesus, Romans 15:5-6

October 1, 2017

Becoming One

ROMANS 15:1-4

We who are powerful need to be patient with the weakness of those who don't have power, and not please ourselves. Each of us should please our neighbors for their good in order to build them up. Christ didn't please Himself, but, as it is written, *The insults of those who insulted You fell on me*. Whatever was written in the past was written for our instruction so we could have hope through endurance and through the encouragement of the scriptures.

The unthinkable alternative to putting up with the weaknesses of the weak would be for the strong to please themselves. Paul implies the scrupulosity, poverty, and lack of social status of the weak are burdens to be borne by the strong. If the weak need to be reminded of their deficiency in faith, the strong in faith need to be reminded that an excess of faith will never compensate for a deficiency in love. Paul warned the knowledgeable of Corinth, "Knowledge puffs us, but love builds up" 1 Corinthians 8:1. (George Lyons, 2008).

True interpretation of Scripture leads us into unqualified giving of our lives in service within the community whose vocation is to reenact the obedience of the Son of God Who loved us and gave Himself for us. Scripture may not be read legitimately for information alone; its object is transformation (Hays, 1993).

The Bible, is the earlier part of the story we ourselves are living in, explaining the roots from which we have grown. Or, if you like, it gives us the foundation on which, despite appearances, we can build securely for the future (NT Wright, 2004).

Next week: In Relationship—With Jesus, Romans 15:5-6

October 1, 2017

Becoming One

Passion for Your house has consumed me, and the insults of those who insult You have fallen on me. **Psalm 69:9**

Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus: Though He was in the form of God, He did not consider being equal with God something to exploit. But He emptied Himself by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. When He found Himself in the form of a human, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. **Philippians 2:5-8**

Be the best in this work of grace in the same way that you are the best in everything, such as faith, speech, knowledge, total commitment, and the love we inspired in you. I'm not giving an order, but by mentioning the commitment of others, I'm trying to prove the authenticity of your love also. You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Although He was rich, He became poor for our sakes, so you could become rich through His poverty. **2 Corinthians 8:7-9**

Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ. **Galatians 6:2**

After calling the crowd together with his disciples, Jesus said to them, "All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. **Mark 8:34**

October 1, 2017

Becoming One

Passion for Your house has consumed me, and the insults of those who insult You have fallen on me. **Psalm 69:9**

Adopt the attitude that was in Christ Jesus: Though He was in the form of God, He did not consider being equal with God something to exploit. But He emptied Himself by taking the form of a slave and by becoming like human beings. When He found Himself in the form of a human, He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. **Philippians 2:5-8**

Be the best in this work of grace in the same way that you are the best in everything, such as faith, speech, knowledge, total commitment, and the love we inspired in you. I'm not giving an order, but by mentioning the commitment of others, I'm trying to prove the authenticity of your love also. You know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Although He was rich, He became poor for our sakes, so you could become rich through His poverty. **2 Corinthians 8:7-9**

Carry each other's burdens and so you will fulfill the law of Christ. **Galatians 6:2**

After calling the crowd together with his disciples, Jesus said to them, "All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. **Mark 8:34**