

Theme for 2018

WE ARE THE ARMY OF GOD & WE ARE ARMED AND DANGEROUS!

“For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.” 2 Corinthians 10:3-5 (NIV)



This Week’s Thought – January 21, 2018

“Be very careful, then, how you live—not as unwise but as wise, making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the Lord’s will is.” Ephesians 5:15-17 (NIV)

It is incredibly easy to drift through life without any purpose or intentionality. We catch ourselves saying things like “*where did the time go?*” or “*has it already been a year?*” Rather than proactively forming holy habits and intentional rhythms of life, we become passive slaves to our schedules. We wake up one day and say, “*how did I get here,*” failing to realize the inevitable results of poor decisions/choices made years ago.

In the face of this spiritual slumber the Scriptures exhort us to stay awake, alert, and attentive. They call forth in us a way of life that must be cultivated and pursued. We never default towards wisdom and understanding. Without divine intervention and submission to God’s grace, spiritual decline and deterioration will always take root and continue to spread in our lives.

In Ephesians 5, Paul challenges his readers to pursue wisdom and flee foolish living. The word ‘*foolish*’ can also mean “ignorant”, “thoughtless” or “unenlightened.” I think “unenlightened” is more the sense in which Paul uses this word, calling us to not only flee evil and harmful pursuits, but to also actively turn towards the Lord and learn His ways. As he says, “*understand what the Lord’s will is.*” (Ephesians 5:17)

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Generally, we are prone to think higher of ourselves than we ought! We think we are wiser, more careful, and understand more than we actually do. Yet we never graduate from Paul’s challenge to us. The invitation to move from foolishness towards wisdom is a life long journey from which we must never deviate.

Take time to honestly assess the state of your spiritual wisdom and understanding. Are there areas of your life that lack careful attention and proactive investment? Call them out and create a plan to move from the path of unawareness or being unenlightened to the way of wisdom. God has given you everything you need to pursue wisdom and learn in every area of your life what it means to walk in His will. Choose today to orient every part of your life towards His transforming grace!

“His divine power has given us everything we need for a godly life through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness.” (2 Peter 1:3)

Application: Where do you suffer from spiritual slumber or carelessness?

Prayer of reflection you might pray this week: “Dear God, I give You my full attention in this moment, and I see the result of Your love and compassion towards me. I seek to get my personal self out of the way, so that the Divine can emerge from within me. I give You my undivided attention as I come to You this day, seeking to abide in You and consciously let You perform Your work. Live in me and through me and all around me oh God, freeing me to live a fuller, happier, more useful and more satisfying life through You. This is my prayer in the matchless, wonderful and compassionate name of Jesus, Amen!”

“And then God answered: “Write this. Write what you see. Write it out in big block letters so that it can be read on the run. This vision-message is a witness pointing to what’s coming. It aches for the coming—it can hardly wait! And it doesn’t lie. If it seems slow in coming, wait. It’s on its way. It will come right on time.” Habakkuk 2:2-3 (MSG)

Yours in Christ, Pastor King