Radiant Church, November 5, 2017

Mike Rydman

**Have Jesus’s Attitude**

**1 Peter 4:1-11**

1 Peter 4:1-2 *Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God.*

1 Peter 4:3 *The time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry.*

4:1-3 A militant attitude toward sin

 We easily get accustomed to sin

 A believer living in sin is a terrible weapon in the hands of Satan

1 Peter 4:4-5 *With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead.*

1 Peter 4:6 *For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.*

4:4-6 A patient attitude toward the lost

 4:6 a false Catholic justification for purgatory

 The gospel is only preached to the living

1 Peter 4:7 *The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers.*

4:7 An expectant attitude toward Christ Jesus returning

 Peter gives 10 commandments (4:7-19)

 v7 be sober minded (versus “mania,” running after each new thing)

 v7 watch and pray (be alert when you pray, not just go through motions)

 v8 have fervent love

 v9 be hospitable

 vv10-11 use your spiritual gifts

1 Peter 4:8-11 *Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins. Show hospitality to one another without grumbling. As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace: whoever speaks, as one who speak oracles of God; whoever serves, as one who serves by the strength that God supplies – in order that in everything, God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

4:8-11 a fervent attitude toward the other believers for God’s fame

 Love is the badge of a believer in this world (John 13:34-35)

 Cover a multitude of sins? Deal with our sins, so the unsaved world

 doesn’t get unnecessary ammunition against God’s church

 And…we don’t get caught up other believer’s little sins against us

 Be hospitable (especially when they didn’t have hotels)

 Teachers/preachers/elders are to direct the rest of us to God’s glory

 “Servers” (deacons and otherwise) are to serve in the Holy Spirit’s

 strength, not our own

 In both examples, the purpose for these gifts is outward, not for the

 gain of the speaker or server, but in order to enhance God’s

 reputation

 God has given us spiritual gifts and expects us to use those gifts to

 honor him by serving others

Why?

*– in order that in everything, God may be glorified through Jesus Christ. To him belong glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.*

John Calvin: “We never truly glory in God until we have utterly discarded our own glory…The elect are justified by the Lord, in order that they may glory in him, and in none else.”

Puritans (1640’s) Westminster Confession of Faith: Question 1 – What is the chief end of man? Man’s chief end is to glorify God, and to enjoy him forever.

The Reformation, most historians believe started 500 years ago when Martin Luther defied the false teachings of the Catholic Church, had at its base “5 Solas,” 5 departures from what the Catholic Church was teaching in the Middle Ages…

If we deny **sola Scriptura (according only Scripture)**, we make our own wisdom and experience, or even some preacher we appreciate the authority in all spiritual life, not the revealed Word of God

If we deny **sola gratia (only by grace)**, we elevate our own will above the sovereign will of God.

If we deny **sola fide (only through faith)**, we exalt our own self-righteous works, while diminishing the saving work of Jesus Christ

If we deny **solus Christus (only in Jesus)**, we fix our gaze on created beings, and not on Christ, as the object of our worship and adoration

A denial of biblical Christian doctrine makes us idolaters, and robs God of the glory due His name. However, if we live and believe in such a way that glorifies the Lord, then all of our Christian life exists **soli Deo gloria**  **(only for the glory of Go**d)

According to Scripture alone, salvation is by God’s grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone…all for the glory of God alone

 God’s glory in Scripture

 God’s radiant glory (visible images, like Moses’ burning bush)

 God’s glory displayed (God passing by Moses in Exodus, pillar of cloud,

pillar of fire, fill the Tabernacle and later the Temple)

 God’s glory acknowledged by God’s people in worship

 God’s glory in Christ Jesus

 God’s New Covenant people are redeemed in Jesus to live every aspect

of life for the sake of God’s glory (Corum Deo – unto God)

We evidence changed lives for God’s glory:

Matthew 5:14-16 *You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*

We live like everything we think, believe and do leads to God glory:

I Corinthians 10:31 *So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.*

And even when we are persecuted for following Jesus, even when we suffer while still believing God is the giver of all good gifts, that our suffering is a part of his expressing his love for us, that our dishonor is okay if it ultimately results in God’s honor:

Acts 5: (17ff) 41-42 *Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus.*