

Sermon Quotes
November 30th , 2008
Philippians 4:8-9- Gospel Thinking

Phi 4:8-9

(8) Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.

(9) What you have learned and received and heard and seen in me--practice these things, and the God of peace will be with you.

Philippians 1:27

*Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you are **standing firm** in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel,*

“Watch your thoughts, they become your words; watch your words, they become actions; watch your actions, they become habits; watch your habits, they become character; watch your character, for it becomes your destiny”

-unknown

Proposition Statement:

The Christian life (the gospel worthy life) is one of finding and focusing on the good in ourselves, in others, in our circumstances.

Explanation of “what to think about”

- 1) Whatever is true...
- 2) Whatever is honorable...
- 3) Whatever is just...
- 4) Whatever is pure...
- 5) Whatever is lovely...
- 6) Whatever is commendable...
- 7) If any excellence...
- 8) If anything praise worthy...

Some Observations

- 1) There is significant overlap
- 2) These are all positive attributes
- 3) These are all stated positively
- 4) They all exist within a context where there is evil
- 5) This is a mental exercise

Application “how to think about...”

1) How should I think about myself?

▪ What is true about me?

1. God made you the way you are (Ps 139:14)
2. God loves you with a love that can't be broken (Rom 8:35)
3. God saved you (2 Tim 1:9)
4. God made you His child (John 1:12)
5. God gave you spiritual gifts (1 Cor 12:7)
6. God created you for a specific purpose (Eph 2:10)
7. God has made His home within you (1 Cor 6:19-20)

2) How should I think about others?

3) How should I think about my circumstances?

John 16:33

I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

1 John 5:4-5

For everyone who has been born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world--our faith. (5) Who is it that overcomes the world except the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?