

# Sermon Notes

## *Ignite Your Faith - Neh 8:8-10*

### July 12, 2020

#### I. Introduction

- a. (TT ticks video)... remember that... exposure leads to thoughts... thoughts to feelings... feelings to actions... results of life come from exposure...  
Prov 4:23... "guard your heart... it determines the course of your life..."  
Prov 23:7... "as he thinks in his heart, so is he..."  
3John 2... "pray you prosper and be in health... just as soul prospers..."
- b. emotions good, from God... good servant, lousy master... feelings on inside, caused by pain or pleasure to move you in a certain direction... move you toward or away from God... both God and satan have plans...  
Jer 29:11... "plans I have for you... for good... give you future and hope..."  
John 10:10... "devil comes to steal, kill, destroy..."
- c. most want to prosper and be in good health... begins on inside... just as your soul prospers (mew / thinker, feeler, chooser)... feel what you feel because you're thinking what you're thinking... you are in charge of your emotions...  
Rom 8:6-11... "carnal mind is death... spiritual mind is life..."  
1Tim 4:8... "godliness has value for all things... present life and life to come..."
- d. that's how life works... don't like where you're at, change it (Creflo)... not powerless, God gave you power... start with soul (think, feel, choose)... pray...

#### II. Ignite Your Faith

- a. God has purpose for everyone... you are not a mistake... satan tries to move you away from that purpose... good news... he doesn't choose, you do...  
Deut 30:19... "set before you life and death, blessing and curse... choose life..."  
Prov 18:21... "words kill, words give life... poison or fruit... you choose..."  
Rom 8:6-11... "carnal mind is death... spiritual mind is life..."
- b. how do you get spiritual mind... only thru the Word... many people want motivational speeches, life coaches... few want the Word (not here)...  
Matt 4:4... "man does not live on bread... but every word from God..."  
2Cor 3:5... "no lasting value on our own... only power, success from God..."
- c. God helps those who help themselves... not in bible, not true... God helps those who ask Him for help, not those who try to do it on their own (BFranklin)... God gives and takes away, needed another flower in His garden... not biblical truth, doesn't really help anyone... carnal, not spiritual... eventually leads to death...  
Job 42... "spoke about things I did not understand... I take back what I said..."  
Rom 11:29... "God's gifts can never be withdrawn (irrevocable)..."
- d. knowing Word helps you have authority over emotions... long before devil steals health, peace, finances, joy... he has to steal the Word from you...  
Josh 1:7-9... "meditate on Word day and night... then have good success..."  
Psa 1:1-3... "meditating on it day and night... prosper in all they do..."

- e. trains you to live on emotions... I don't feel like God loves me... rather than I know God loves me and I can show it to you in the Word... don't let emotions lead you... I can't help how I feel (yes, you can)... devil made me do it (nope)... we sin because we want to... devil can't make you do anything (exposure)...  
Mark 7... "hearts far from me... cancel Word to hand down your tradition..."  
John 8:44-45... "devil is liar... when I tell truth, you don't believe Me..."  
James 1:14-15... "each person is tempted when he is drawn away... enticed by his own desire... desire gives birth to sin... sin gives birth to death..."
- f. negative emotions will come... don't have to let them take you from God... you have power to deal with them, so they won't hurt you or others (choice)...  
John 14:1... "don't let your heart be troubled... believe in Me..."
- g. trouble will come... what's the answer... words of Jesus... only they can bring joy and peace... can be of good cheer because you know everything you go thru has already been overcome by Jesus... no Word, no joy, no peace...  
John 15... "I have told you these things so your joy may be complete..."  
John 16... "I have told you these things so you won't abandon your faith... you will be sorrowful... be scattered... have suffering... I have told you all this so you may have peace in Me... be of good cheer... I have overcome the world..."
- h. God has not left you without weapons (300 BLK)... useless without ammo...  
Eph 6:17... "take the Sword of the Spirit, which is the Word of God..."  
2cor 10... "weapons of war not carnal (death)... but have spiritual power (life)..."
- i. mouth is trigger (speak)... Word is ammo... best ammo to use against negative emotions is joy... joy ignites faith... joy changes things... joy causes faith to be explosive... enemy has no power over joy... load joy bullets, pull trigger...  
2Sam 22... "I praised the Lord... saved from my enemies..."  
2Chron 20... "singers ahead of army praising... enemy defeated..."  
Neh 8:8-10... "read the Word... joy of the Lord is your strength..."  
Psa 42:5... "why am I discouraged and sad... I will praise the Lord..."  
Matt 21:16 (Psa 8:2)... "praise is strength which silences your enemies..."  
Phil 4:4-9... "always be full of joy in the Lord (rejoice - brighten up, leap, spin)..."
- j. joy defeats the enemy... how can you count it all joy... joy is not happiness... happiness is based on how you feel... joy is based on what you know... don't have to be happy to feel joy... be joyful long enough and happiness follows...  
Jam 1... "consider trials great joy... because you know testing of faith worketh (hire, employ) patience... let it, so you may be complete, lacking nothing... ask in faith, don't doubt... doubter should not expect to receive anything..."
- k. testing doesn't necessarily produce patience... Greek means hire/employ... when trouble comes, employ patience... don't just put up with it (traffic)... be consistently, constantly the same... when bad news comes, hire joy...  
1Cor 15:58... "stand firm, let nothing move you..."  
1Cor 16:13... "stand firm in the faith... be courageous... be strong..."  
Heb 10... "do not throw away your confidence... patience is what you need..."  
James 1:12... "God blesses those who patiently endure testing..."
- l. joy is Godly emotion that draws you closer to Him... keeps you in fight even when trouble comes... helps faith be consistent... makes you perfect, lacking nothing... destroys doubt... allows you to receive all God's promises... pray...  
2Cor 1:20... "all God's promises are yes in Him... that's why we say amen..."

## Our Righteousness

Jer 23:6... *the Lord our righteousness...*

It will always give a Christian the **greatest calm, quiet, ease, and peace**, to think of the perfect righteousness of Christ. How often are the saints of God downcast and sad! I do not think they ought to be. I do not think they would if they could always see their perfection in Christ.

There are some who are always talking about corruption, and the depravity of the heart, and the innate evil of the soul. This is quite true, but why not go a little further, and remember that we are *perfect in Christ Jesus*. It is no wonder that those who are dwelling upon their own corruption should wear such downcast looks... but surely if we call to mind that *Christ is made unto us righteousness...* we shall **be of good cheer**.

What though distresses afflict me, though satan assault me, though there may be many things to be experienced before I get to heaven, those are done for me in the covenant of divine grace. There is nothing wanting in my Lord... Christ hath done it all. On the cross He said, *it is finished*, and if it be finished, then am **I complete in Him and can rejoice with joy** unspeakable and full of glory. *Not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is thru the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith.*

**You will not find on this side of heaven a holier people than those who receive into their hearts the doctrine of Christ's righteousness.** When the believer says, *I live on Christ alone; I rest on Him solely for salvation; and I believe that, however unworthy, I am still saved in Jesus...* then there rises up as a motive of gratitude this thought... *shall I not live to Christ? Shall I not love Him and serve Him, seeing I am saved by His merits?*

*The love of Christ constraineth us... that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves but unto Him which died for them.* If saved by imputed righteousness, we shall greatly value imparted righteousness.

Charles Spurgeon  
Morning and Evening Devotional – January 31<sup>st</sup>

## Sermon Study

Ignite Your Faith - Neh 8:8-10 - July 12, 2020

1. What **thoughts and feelings** did the tick video bring up? What things are you being exposed to that are creating negative actions? How do you change that? Read **Prov 4:23; 23:7** and **3John 2**.
2. What happens when you **focus your thoughts** on things of the world? What happens when you focus your thoughts on the Word? Read **Rom 8:6-11** and **1Tim 4:8**.
3. Do you **have a choice** in how things turn out in life? Why or why not? Read **Deut 30:19... Prov 18:21... John 14:1... Rom 8:6-11**. How can you have good success? Read **Josh 1:7-9** and **Psa 1:1-3**.
4. Can the devil **make you sin**? Read **John 8:44-45** and **James 1:14-15**. **Why** do we sin?
5. What is the **source** of joy and peace? Read **John 15:11** and **John 16:33**. How does the Word give you joy and peace? Is it something you feel or **something you know**? Read **James 1:2-12**.
6. What is the **best weapon** against the enemy of negative emotions? Read **2Sam 22... 2Chron 20... Neh 8:8-10... Psa 42:5... Matt 21:16** (Psa 8:2)... **Phil 4:4-9**. **How good** are you at responding to bad things with praise, joy, and thanksgiving?
7. Read **1Cor 15:58... 1Cor 16:13... Heb 10:35-36... James 1:12**. How does **standing firm** and being consistently, constantly the same **help** you deal with trouble? Where does joy fit in?

What you expose yourself to will determine your thoughts... your thoughts determine feelings... your feelings determine decisions... your decisions determine actions... your actions determine habits... your habits will determine character... your character will determine your destination in life. Pastor Creffo Dollar