

“The Essentials Of Our Faith”

Session XLIII

September 18, 2011

“Missions: World Vision”

Part Three: The Believer’s “Call” And “Commission”!

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” Acts 1:8

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creature; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come. Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, namely that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the word of reconciliation. Therefore, we are AMBASSADORS for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God IN HIM.” II Corinthians 5:17-21

This “ministry of reconciliation” rests upon _____ Believer and may be exercised in three ways:

1. Sacrificial “_____”, II Cor. 8:1 – 9:15.

“The Gospel may be presented to the unsaved through sacrificial gifts (of support). Evidently there are many earnest Believers who would rejoice to win a soul for Christ who have not awakened to the effectiveness of giving . . . The messenger cannot go except he be sent, but the one who sends him is a ‘partner’ in the service and has taken ‘stock’ which will pay eternal dividends.” --Lewis Sperry Chafer

Observation: Effective “fruit-bearing” through giving requires a clear understanding of the “_____” of reconciliation, II Cor. 5:19.

*“ . . . God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself,
not counting their trespasses against them . . . ”*

- a. Understanding the “Word” of reconciliation enables the _____ of individuals and ministries who are _____ preaching the Gospel.
- b. Understanding the “Word” of reconciliation enables participation in _____ spiritual _____.

2. Effectual “_____,” Colossians 4:2-4.

“Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with an attitude of thanksgiving; praying at the same time for us as well, that God will open up to us a door for the word, so that we may speak forth the mystery of Christ, for which I have also been imprisoned; that I may make it clear in the way I ought to speak.”

Helpful Quotations from Dr. Lewis Sperry Chafer:

“All evangelism must begin with prayer. And no human service, or device, can take the place of . . . intercession . . . While the ‘Believer-priest’ may intercede in behalf of fellow-members in the Body of Christ, it is a privilege of his co-partnership with Christ to intercede for the lost. The answer to that prayer will be the going forth of the Spirit to convince (convict) them of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment.”

“The importance of preaching and teaching the truth is in no way lessened by this emphasis upon priestly prayer. It must be borne in mind that prevailing prayer necessarily accompanies all other ministry – for it commands the power of God and secures the needed illumination of the mind toward the Word that may be preached. Without prayer there will be little understanding of the Gospel, even though faithfully preached.”

“The marvelous, and so little experienced, movings of the Spirit upon the unsaved are at the command of the least of God’s children . . . for such a Believer is a priest unto God . . . How little the stupendous fact of this individual power in prayer is realized by Christians today!”

“It is easily proven that there is no more fruitful ministry possible to the child of God than prayer; yet how very few seem to realize that souls are saved through that service.”

3. Word of “_____” – “_____” **Evangelism,** **Eph. 6:19-20.**

“And pray on my behalf, that utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains; that in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.”

“Since all are commissioned to this task, there are certain imperative conditions to be observed: 1) The messenger must be willing to be placed where the Spirit wills. 2) The messenger should be instructed as to the precise truths which constitute the Gospel of the grace which he is appointed to declare. And 3) the messenger must be Spirit-filled, else he will lack the impelling passion for the lost which alone prompts one to fearless and tireless soul-winning service.”

–Lewis Sperry Chafer