

Sunday, September 18, 2022

1 Timothy 4:13, “Until I come, devote yourself to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching.”

Title: Enriching Our Soul, Addressing Bitterness
Series: Renewing & Enriching Our Inner Man.. 2

Text: 3 John 1:1 - 4; Hebrews 12:7 - 17

Purpose: I want to MOTIVATE my congregation to address the wounded areas of their SOUL where bitterness has left scars and hurts.

Introduction:

~ 3 John 1:1 – 3, “The elder to the beloved Gaius, whom I love in truth. (2) Beloved, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul. (3) For I rejoiced greatly when the brothers came and testified to your truth, as indeed you are walking in the truth. (4) I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the truth.”

~ Hebrews 12:7 – 17, (15) “See to it that no one fails to obtain the grace of God; that no “root of bitterness” springs up and causes trouble, and by it many become defiled;”

My understanding of GRACE is the power, ability and authority of God extended to believers through the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ who abides in them.

~ “We all have splinters in our soul that get infected. ...We all have some baggage from our past. It is just part of growing up in a sin-stained fallen planet. But some people are carrying around more hurts, hits, wounds, and dings than others. Not everyone is hurt equally or in the same way. ...But the Hebrew word for peace is shalom, which also includes a sense of wholeness or well-being. Jesus’ death gave us access to healing and wholeness, a deep internal peace of the soul. It is because of His wounding that we are healed. ...God didn’t bring abuse into their life; some person perpetrated an evil act against them. But God can redeem it.”

Dr. Rob Reimer, Soul Care

1. Bitterness Toward...:

~ Exodus 15:22 - 26

~ Israel had been slaves in Egypt for 400 years. They might have been bitter toward Egyptians.

~ But if God is God and if he is sovereign, than He either caused it or allowed it.

~ Who do I think has wronged me?

~ Do I see myself as a victim?

~ Does God really love me?

2. Bitterness Toward...:

~ Ruth 1:19 - 22

~ verse 20, “She said to them, “Do not call me Naomi (#H5281, my delight, pleasant), call me Mara (#H4755, bitterness), for the Almighty has dealt very bitterly with me.””

~ The circumstances of life. insert

~ But if God is God...

~ Does God really love me?

3. Bitterness Toward...:

~ 1 Samuel 1:3 - 7

~ Pain of physical limitations and mocking.

~ But if God is God...

~ Does God really love me?

4. Bitterness Toward...Self:

~ Isaiah 6:1 – 5

~ Dear God, I have messed up again! Will I ever get it right? I feel so weak and hopeless. Can you really forgive me?

Dallas Holm, Here We Are

Healing of the soul comes...

- As I acknowledge the pain

- As I confess that You can turn it to good. Romans 8:28 – 30

- As I forgive, bless and uplift others. Romans 12:14

Conclusion:

How Deep the Father’s Love

Fernando Ortega