

Sunday, January 12, 2025

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

Title: The Greatest Commandment

Text: Matthew 22:23 - 46

Purpose: I want to PERSUADE my congregation to BELIEVE that as followers of Christ Jesus we have been called into a LOVE RELATIONSHIP with the MOST HIGH GOD.

Introduction:

Sunday, December 29, devotional was entitled, "Setting My FIRST Priority;" we considered:

~ 1) Outline of Psalm 27; 2) Our Personal Application; 3) Our Instruction from Father God; 4) Our Instruction from David

~ Last week's devotional was entitled, "Biblical Habits of Waiting on the Lord:" ~1) Habit of Abiding in the Word; 2) Habit of Prayer; 3) Habit of Praise; 4) Habit of Obedience

~ The devotional "Biblical Habits of Waiting on the Lord" was a follow-up to Psalm 27:14, "Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!"

~ The Hebrew word is qava (H6960) and is used 49 times. Qava is a verb and is a primitive root; to bind together (perhaps by twisting). Wait for (probably originally twist, stretch, then of tension of enduring, waiting: Assyrian, wait, cord; Arabic be strong, strength, also strand of rope; Syriac endure, remain, await, threads, spider's threads.

~ Spider silk insert

~ The devotional today, "The Greatest Commandment," was deeply impressed to my soul as being strongly connected to both, "Setting My FIRST Priority" and "Biblical Habits of Waiting on the LORD." Please let my see Your glory; one thing I have desired of the Lord; wait on the Lord.

1. Our Call is to a Person:

~ We are NOT called to a denomination, or to a mission, or a movement...we are called to Christ Jesus; Ephesians 1:3 - 6, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, (4) even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before

him. In love (5) he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, (6) to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved."

~ Matthew 11:25 - 30, (28) "Come to me [that is the PERSON, Christ Jesus], all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. (29) Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."

~ Deuteronomy 22:10, "You shall not plow with an ox and a donkey together."

~ Christ Jesus initiates the LOVE and we are to respond in LOVE. 1 Corinthians 2:14, "The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned."

2. Our Call is to Romance:

~ Matthew 22:37, "And he said to him, "You shall love (G25 agapao) with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind,"

~ 1 John 4:19, "We love because he first loved us."

~ John 14:21, "Whoever has my commandment and keeps them, he it is who loves me. And he who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I will love him and manifest myself to him."

Remember John 21:15 - 17

~ Hebrews 12:6, "For the Lord disciplines the one he loves, and chastises every son whom he receives."

3. Our Call is to His Mission:

~ John 20:21 - 22, "Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." (22) And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.""

~ John 6:38 - 40, "For I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will but the will of him who sent me. (39) And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. (40) For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day."

~ Matthew 28:19, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,..."

~ Isaiah 6:8, "And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Then I said, "here I am! Send me.""

Conclusion:

CityAlight - My God is All I Need/My God is So Big