

A WHOLE NEW WARDROBE - 6

12/2/07

Introduction –

What if you were in school and the teacher said that in order to pass you would need an “A”, and then proceeded to tell you that you were already being given a “A”. What would be your reaction? Would you show up, study, or even care? Well, such is the case with the “Good News”. God, the Father requires absolute perfection to get into heaven, and then gives it to you through Jesus Christ the moment you believe. So, why even try to live holy, since He’s already declared you holy?

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*Eph 1:13-14 – “You also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. **Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession – to the praise of His glory.**”*
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***TODAY’S MESSAGE: WHY EVEN BOTHER TRYING?**

1. _____
II Cor 5:14-15 – “For Christ’s love compels us ... He died for all, that those who live should no longer live for themselves but for Him who died for them and was raised again.”

***Discussion:**

1. What analogy use to describe Christ love compelling us?
2. Why is love the highest reason for living a life holy and pleasing to our God?

2. _____
Eph 4:30 – “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”

***Discussion:** The two key words here are “grieve” and “sealed”. Expound.

3. _____
Eph 4:27 – “And do not give the devil a foothold”
Prov 25:28 – “Like a city whose walls are broken down is a man who lacks self-control”

***Discussion:**

1. Why is giving the devil a foothold so dangerous? (Clue: Definition)
2. How does the scripture in Proverbs tie in with giving the devil a foothold in our lives?

4. _____
Gal 5:1 – “It is for freedom that Christ has set us free.”

***Discussion:**

1. What are two potential solutions to the constant tug of war battle with-in?
2. Why does freedom feel so good?

5.

*Mt. 23:3, 13 – “...do not do what they do, for **they do not practice what they preach ... hypocrites!**”*

***Discussion:**

1. The word translated “hypocrite” was a word created by Jesus meaning what?
2. Why is hypocrisy so destructive?

6.

*II Cor 3:3 – “you show that you are **a letter from Christ...**”*

*II Cor 5:20 – “We are therefore Christ’ **ambassadors...**”*

***Discussion:** What is the significance of being called Christ’ “letters” and “ambassadors”?

7.

*II Tim 2:4-5 – “No one serving as a soldier gets involved in civilian affairs – **he wants to please His commanding officer**. Similarly, if anyone competes as an athlete, he does not receive the victor’s crown unless **he competes according to the rules**.*

***Discussion:**

1. In the context of II Timothy, what do these two analogies tell us?
2. How does this relate to today’s word?