

Sermon Study Questions

Sunday, August 25, 2024

1. Read 1 Corinthians 16:13-24
2. What are the various issues Paul has addressed in this letter? Which one of them was most helpful for you? Explain how it helped you.
3. Paul concludes by giving a string of summary exhortation in v.13. Which of these exhortations resonates most with you? What do each of these exhortations have in common?
4. In v.14 Paul says to let all things be done in love. How does this exhortation fit together with this string of exhortations in v.13?
5. What do we learn about Stephanas in this letter, both here and in ch.1?
6. Paul says he rejoiced and was refreshed by their visit. What do you learn from that?
7. Paul gives a stern warning in v.22, saying, "If anyone has no love for the Lord, let him be accursed." What do you learn from this? How is love for the Lord evidenced?
8. What is significant about the way Paul ends this letter, signing off by bestowing God's blessing of grace upon them and by affirming his own love for them?
9. What practical application can you make from this text/sermon?

10. Pray!

Reading of Law: Ephesians 6:10

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his might

Prayer of Confession:

Our Father in heaven, in you is all power, strength, and might. There is none who can oppose you, for you are greater than all. We come to you this morning and confess that we are weak and sinful in and of ourselves. We face powerful enemies in the world, the flesh, and the devil, and yet for as powerful as they are we often seek to fight them in our own strength. We do not turn to you and cling to you and your Word with the determination necessary to withstand in the evil day, but out of pride or sloth or ignorance we attempt to resist on our own and often end up failing. We confess this and ask for your forgiveness. For we know that you are an exceedingly gracious and loving Father, and that your ear is always attentive to our cry as your beloved children. Please help us to look away from ourselves and to continuously look to you to be our strength, knowing that in you we have an ever present help in time of need. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness: Lamentations 3:21-23

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: ²² The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³ they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

WLC: 142

Q. 142. What are the sins forbidden in the eighth commandment?

A. The sins forbidden in the eighth commandment, besides the neglect of the duties required, are, theft, robbery, man-stealing, and receiving any thing that is stolen; fraudulent dealing; false weights and measures; removing landmarks; injustice and unfaithfulness in contracts between man and man, or in matters of trust; oppression; extortion; usury; bribery; vexatious lawsuits; unjust inclosures and depopulations; engrossing commodities to enhance the price, unlawful

callings, and all other unjust or sinful ways of taking or withholding from our neighbor what belongs to him, or of enriching ourselves; covetousness; inordinate prizing and affecting worldly goods; distrustful and distracting cares and studies in getting, keeping, and using them; envying at the prosperity of others; as likewise idleness, prodigality, wasteful gaming; and all others ways whereby we do unduly prejudice our own outward estate, and defrauding ourselves of the due use and comfort of that estate which God hath given us.

[Jas. 2:15-16](#); [1 John 3:17](#); [Eph. 4:28](#); [Ps. 62:10](#); [1 Tim. 1:10](#); [Prov. 29:24](#); [Ps. 1:18](#); [1 Thess. 4:6](#); [Prov. 11:1](#); [Prov. 20:10](#); [Deut. 19:14](#); [Prov. 23:10](#); [Amos 8:5](#); [Ps. 37:21](#); [Luke 16:10-12](#); [Ezek. 22:29](#); [Lev. 25:17](#); [Matt. 23:25](#); [Ezek. 22:12](#); [Ps. 15:5](#); [Job 15:34](#); [1 Cor. 6:6-8](#); [Prov. 3:29-30](#); [Isa. 5:8](#); [Mic. 2:2](#); [Prov. 11:26](#); [Acts 19:19, 24-25](#); [Job 20:19](#); [Jas. 5:4](#); [Prov. 21:6](#); [Luke 12:15](#); [1 Tim. 6:5](#); [Col. 3:2](#); [Prov. 23:5](#); [Ps. 62:10](#); [Matt. 6:25, 31, 34](#); [Ecc. 5:12](#); [Ps. 73:3](#); [Ps. 37:1, 7](#); [2 Thess. 3:11](#); [Prov. 18:9](#); [Prov. 21:17](#); [Prov. 23:20-21](#); [Prov. 28:19](#); [Ecc. 4:8](#); [Ecc. 6:2](#); [1 Tim. 5:8](#).

OT Reading: Psalm 27:1-14

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold¹ of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? ² When evildoers assail me to eat up my flesh, my adversaries and foes, it is they who stumble and fall. ³ Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war arise against me, yet I will be confident. ⁴ One thing have I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: that I may dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to gaze upon the beauty of the LORD and to inquire in his temple. ⁵ For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock. ⁶ And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD. ⁷ Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud; be gracious to me and answer me! ⁸ You have said, "Seek my face." My heart says to you, "Your face, LORD, do I seek." ⁹ Hide not your face from me. Turn not your servant away in anger, O you who have been my help. Cast me not off; forsake me not, O God of my salvation! ¹⁰ For my father and my mother have forsaken me, but the LORD will take me in. ¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD, and lead me on a level path because of my enemies. ¹² Give me not up to the will of my adversaries; for false witnesses have risen against me, and they breathe out violence. ¹³ I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD in the land of the living! ¹⁴ Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD!