



DEVOTIONAL MESSAGE

Boasting in Christ ... by Billy

READ JEREMIAH 9: 23-24

- The Hebrew word for boast is Halal and the expression Hallelujah (praise to God) is derived from this word. We are by nature more inclined to self-praise.
- We place the attainment of wealth high in the rankings and are easily swayed by a culture that idolizes mammon- the God of money
- The power of the intellect is also regarded as among the many reasons for a man to boast. Endless tributes and accolades are showered upon those who have made major breakthroughs in science, medicine and technology.
- This is what we value so this is what we boast about.
- The physical endurance of men and women is greatly celebrated in the world of sport and athletes are willing to spend their lives in an effort to break new records.
- These three areas are highlighted by the Lord as potential pitfalls for the natural man.
- The reality is that this has always been the case although the boasts of intellect, wealth and physical strength may appear in a variety of ways.
- There is a constant need for the follower of Jesus Christ to renounce such boasts.
- This is because God commands us to do so primarily but also because it is a reasonable response to the real issues of life. (Rom.12:1-2)
- These things are destined to fade like the flower of the field. (Isa.40:6-8)
- Rather boast in what is eternal and leave the temporal glory to others. "Let him who boasts boast of this, that he understands and knows Me."
- Paul speaks about the supreme advantage of knowing Jesus Christ as Lord. (Phil.3:8)- all other attainments were counted as rubbish.
- Let us be reminded what it means to know and understand the living God.
- He is the Lord who exercises lovingkindness.
- How many times have we received mercy when we truly deserved judgment? The judgment that we deserved was pronounced against the Lamb of God. The full justice of God was satisfied by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.
- God also leads us to pursue what is just by the indwelling of His Spirit.
- God also delights in demonstrating righteousness on the earth. To know God is to boast in His righteousness and not in our own. He leads us in paths of righteousness. ■

WEEKLY EVENTS/NOTICES

Events /Notices

- ▶ **Next Bible study** will be on *Friday 23rd March @ 7pm*
- ▶ **There may be extra traffic** on the roads next Sunday morning (18th March) as St Patricks festival will be in full swing.
- ▶ **Rosalind from CEF** would like help giving out tracts to children before St Patricks day parade. (If available please see Gareth)

Extra Services

If you have children with you, these are the facilities provided:

▶ Crèche and Pre-school Praise

Our crèche is based on the floor above the Meeting Room with baby changing facilities and toys to keep your young child occupied if they do not settle during the meeting. Parents are to attend to their children at all times. There is a short and simple pre-school Bible lesson during the sermon for 3 - 7 year olds in the Crèche (as arranged).

▶ Sunday School

Our Sunday School is open to children of school going age and operates during the sermon in the Sunday School room on the top floor. Our teachers have a Bible story and songs prepared for your child(ren), teaching them the need for Salvation and Christian living.

Come, my children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD (Psalm 34:11).

▶ Tea and Coffee

After the Sunday morning service, tea, coffee and light refreshments are available on the top floor in the Hospitality Room. Do not forget to show hospitality to strangers, for by so doing some people have shown hospitality to angels without knowing it (*Hebrews 13:2*).