

Welcome to *Faith Bible Church!*

October 4, 2020

Order of Service:

Opening Hymn: *Virginia Grosskurth*

Invocation

Scripture Reading:

Announcements

Pastoral Prayer

Special Music: *Marcia Dennis*

Message: *The Leader of the Italian Band* (Acts 10:1-8)

Blest Be the Tie

Announcements:

Many thanks to Bill Stalter and Ron Glen for installing the base for our new front lawn sign. Brad Bandow, a grace believer who owns and operates *Brushfire Signs* of Elkhorn, Wisconsin, will begin installation next week!

October 18 our guest speaker will be Josh Dennis, as Pastor ministers at *Grace Gospel Church* of Linton, IN.

Midweek Bible Study is on hold for the time being.

Our offering box is located just left of the kitchen door.

Pick up today's cross reference sheet & silence your phone

I Corinthians 3:12-15 The Builder and His Building

Paul wants us to build the “building” of the “house” of our own personal spiritual lives *on the foundation of the Lord Jesus Christ* (v.11,12) so that your house can withstand the storms of life (cf.Mt.7:24-29). But it’s *also* important what you build your house *with* (v.12).

You say, “Who builds a house with things like gold?” Solo-mon! He built *the temple* with it (IKi.6:17-21), and that house was a type of what God will someday make *the house of Israel* into (Rev.3:12). That’s the *living* temple of God He had in mind when He said He’d live *in the Jews* (IICor.6:16).

But that wasn’t God’s *only* house of people. Paul told Timothy about a “house” that was “the church, which is His Body” (Eph.1:22,23). That’s God’s *other* house of people, and it’s also the other house He wants us to build on the foundation of Christ! It’s a house made up of all the *individual* spiritual houses of the members of Christ’s Body. God wants us to build up *their* houses as well as our own.

This “great house” of the Body contains *vessels* made of gold and silver (IITim.2:20). A vessel is a container used to carry things (Ge.43:11). *Ships* are called vessels because they car-ry cargo. God put the cargo of the gospel in us (IICor.4:3-7) expecting us to carry it to others, as He did Paul (Acts 9:15).

And He doesn’t want the vessel carrying His salvation *dis-honored* by sin (IThes.4:3,4), like the vessels of dishonor in II Timothy 2:20. And when Paul talks about honorable vessels of gold and silver *in the context of rewards* in our text, that tells us the personal conduct of our testimony is the first thing God plans to reward. Not because our sin hurts *Him*—Christ paid for that hurt!—but because it hurts *the gospel*.

But the gospel isn’t the only thing God wants you carrying in your vessel to others. To build up the spiritual house of

other believers, you have to carry *Pauline truth* to them. If you fail, you are a vessel of dishonor. We know this because the “these” Paul says you have to purge to be a vessel of honor (IITim.2:20-22) are *dispensational errors* (2:16-18).

God plans to *test* our works for wood, hay and stubble like that (ICor.3:13) at the Judgment Seat of Christ (Rom.14:10) with the “fire” of God’s Word (Jer.23:29) to see what “sort” it is. “Sort” means *kind* (cf.Deut.22:11). God is going to judge the *quality* of your work when the fire of His word burns up your wood and hay, and leaves the gold and silver that can “abide” the fire still standing (ICor.3:14,15).

He won’t put *you* in the fire. He did that when He identified you with Christ on the Cross and His fire fell on Him for your sins. So your *sins* will only be judged as they affect your *work*. The word “wrong” in Colossians 2:22-25 doesn’t mean servants will be punished for their sins at the Judgment Seat. It means they’ll suffer a loss of reward for being bad *servants*. The wages of sin is *death*, not a loss of reward!

All believers will suffer that loss for the “bad” work they’ve done as *servants of the Lord* (IICor.5:10). “Bad” doesn’t mean *sinful* (cf.Num.13:20;Jer.24:2; Mt.13:48), it means we did a *bad job building up the church*. A bad carpenter doesn’t follow the blueprints, and a bad believer doesn’t follow the blueprints for the church found in Paul’s epistles.

A believer who does a *good* job building according to Paul’s blueprints will be rewarded with a “crown” (ICor.9:25) so he can “reign” with Christ (IITim.2:12) over the angels (ICor.6:3). God wants us to run so we can reign at the high-est possible level (ICor.9:25-27). Paul compares the Judgment Seat to Olympic games like that because it will be a *joyous* day, not a somber day, like when sinners are judged and sent to the lake of fire. The “terror” we’ll know in that day is the kind Israel had *just standing in God’s presence*, when He wasn’t even mad (Ex.20:18-20). The “mercy” One-siphorus will need is the kind Israel got

when God didn’t leave the Jews in captivity (Ezr.9:9), the loss-of-reward kind.

But our *motivation* to serve the Lord isn’t rewards, it’s the love Christ showed in dying for us, as Paul went on to say (IICor.5:14,15). But the *foundation* of your spiritual house *can’t* burn, because it is the rock-solid foundation of *Christ*. So even if all your work burns at the Judgment Seat, you’ll still be saved in that day “yet so as by fire” (ICor.3:15).

Faith Bible Church

www.faithbiblechurch.weebly.com

October 4, 2020

Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.
Thornton Harrison, Dave Stewart

Morning Service: 10:45 a.m.
Pastor Ricky Kurth

Junior Church: 10:45 a.m.
Myrtle Harrison

Wednesday Night Bible Study: 7:00 p.m.
Assistant Pastor Steve Schwieger

Faith Bible Church
560 East Sauk Trail
Steger, Illinois 60475
708-758-7780

Pastor Ricky Kurth
414-719-0548 (cell)
Pastorkurth @msn.com