

Sermon Notes – 08.14.2016 “What Are You Becoming?”

We are probably always changing. There is a drift in life –

- What is the “set” of your mind **Colossians 3:2** “...set your mind...”
 - Every Day we are setting and resetting “Normal” – Our “Default settings”

The Election and All the Changes In the People Around Us – I believe the Lord Would Have Our Hearts

- So that we are His and He can Use Us to show His Heart to the people who need to see Him
- Our nation is in trouble – God is a very present source of help in a time of trouble

Psalm 46:1 “God is our refuge and strength, A very present help in trouble.”

- We are His Workmanship

Ephesians 2:10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works,
which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them.

- We Are His witnesses – **Acts 1:8**
- We All Have a Gift to Use in a World Whose Love is Growing Cold

1 Peter 4:7-11 The end of all things is near; therefore, be of sound judgment and sober *spirit* for the **purpose of prayer**. **8** Above all, **keep fervent in your love for one another**, because love covers a multitude of sins. **9** Be hospitable to one another without complaint. **10** As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. **11** Whoever speaks, is to do so as one who is speaking the utterances of God; whoever serves is to do so as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies; so that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belongs the glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Ephesians 4:30-32 Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31** Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. **32** Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other, just as God in Christ also has forgiven you. *(To “be,” we need to “become” – day by day)*

- We Are “Sealed” by the Holy Spirit – “Marked for preservation”
- Last week we ministered to one another – release from bitterness – It’s a work in progress
- This week, let’s go on – Release from Wrath, Anger, Clamor, Slander and Malice

It’s an Interesting List for Today

Wrath – Passion / Hot Anger (Thumos),

Anger (Orge) 2) “agitation of the soul, impulse, desire, any violent emotion, but especially anger”, **Clamor** – Outcry,

Slander – “...reproachful injurious speech,”

Malice – “ill-will, desire to injure...wickedness that is not ashamed to break laws...evil, trouble”

(Thayer’s New Testament Words)

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We Have Authority Over Our Own Spirit to Be:

Kind - Useful, virtuous, good, mild, pleasant (as opp. to harsh, hard sharp, bitter), benevolent

Tender-hearted – “Good strong intestines” – Compassionate (Love easily)

Forgiving - To do something pleasant or agreeable, to do a favor to, to show one’s self gracious, kind, benevolent, to grant forgiveness, to pardon

forgives us

Beware The little Changes – Which Direction Are They Taking Us?

- **Give attention to declaring the truth – we are always “Declaring”**
- **Pay Close attention to yourself and what you are teaching – We are always “Teaching”**

1 Timothy 4:13-16 Until I come, **give attention to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation and teaching.** **14 Do not neglect the spiritual gift within you,** which was bestowed on you through prophetic utterance with the laying on of hands by the presbytery. **15 Take pains with these things; *be absorbed in them, so that your progress will be evident to all.*** **16 Pay close attention to yourself and to your teaching; persevere in these things, for as you do this you will ensure salvation both for yourself and for those who hear you.**

- Where do we stand (At least a little bit to the good side of center)
 - If you don’t want to fall “that” way, you lean “this” way
 - Crisis Mode – we shift when we hit it – So pay close attention to yourself