

“Not Ashamed”

Intro: As we consider the text before us we find three _____ whose calling, _____ and station in life varied significantly. There is the Apostle Paul who suffers imprisonment while facing execution. There is Pastor Timothy who faces Paul’s death and the fears and ongoing hardships of the pastorate. And there is the layman Onesiphorus, of whom we know little and do not know if he suffered any persecution.

While Paul commands Timothy to not be ashamed we are informed here that both Paul and Onesiphorus were _____. Each individual believer in their distinct God-appointed station is equally called to _____ without shame, in the boldness of faith.

I. Do _____ be _____

A. As Paul exhorted Timothy we must _____ be ashamed of the Gospel of Jesus Christ! To be ashamed of the Word _____ Christ is to be ashamed of _____!

B. Do not be ashamed of _____ for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. To be embarrassed of them is to be embarrassed of the testimony of Christ.

C. It will not be by self-resolve that we _____ what we suffer for the sake of the gospel but it will be by the spirit of the power of _____, the love of Christ, and the discipline of the Holy Spirit. We endure suffering not by self-might, nor by self-power, but by the _____ of our Triune God!

D. Through a true knowledge of the enormity of the gospel and the power by which _____ we can stand unashamed of Christ, even as we suffer for His gospel.

II. _____ ashamed of the gospel of Christ Jesus!

A. Paul willingly suffered for the gospel of Christ for He _____ the Christ of the gospel. A true knowledge of _____ will secure the soul and assure the sufferer!

B. Paul willfully suffered persecution for the sake of the gospel, for by that _____ he was _____ that God who saved him would keep him. Be convinced in the God of the gospel and know that nothing will take you from His love!

C. Set your shame of Christ Jesus and His gospel aside by _____ Christ, believing in Him, by believing God at His Word and by _____ yourself to Him. Know Jesus!

D. _____ the standard of the gospel _____ shame of the gospel and fear of suffering for Christ.

E. The active _____ of the treasure of the gospel puts fear and shame of the gospel aside. Let us be _____ of the gospel rather than playing the ashamed, fearful victim!

1. God help us here at Heritage to be faithful to the proclamation of the Gospel! May we _____ and _____ the gospel as the most precious treasure it is! Let us always and until we breathe our last, unashamedly proclaim Christ, admonishing everyone, _____ everyone with the wisdom of the gospel, that we may present everyone complete in _____. For this purpose let us labor, striving according to His power, which mightily works within us.

III. _____ siphorus _____ _____ ashamed.

A. Being unashamed of the _____ of Christ Onesiphorus was unashamed to _____ to the imprisoned Paul.

B. The _____ of God are _____ all who are not ashamed of His Son.

Finally then: Where have you been ashamed of the testimony of the Lord? Be ashamed no longer! _____ the magnitude of the gospel of Jesus, and think of the greatness of _____ toward you, and be not ashamed.

As the Lord said to Joshua, 1:9, "Have I not commanded you? Be _____ and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."

Whether you are like Timothy, or Paul, or Onesiphorus, or someone else, the calling is the same: Do _____ be _____ of the testimony of Jesus Christ! And in the face of persecution we have the comfort of our Lord's own words: "Everyone therefore who shall confess Me before men, I will also confess him before My Father who is in heaven. (Matt. 10:32). Unashamedly _____ _____ as your Savior and Lord! No shame!