

DANGER: Lordship devotional message ahead!

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Hebrews 12:2

...If you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant. Colossians 1:23

Continue to Focus on Jesus --- “Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith” – The writer of Hebrews commissions us to focus on Jesus, the only one we are to place our faith in. This means to concentrate on Jesus daily, not just a passing glance on Sundays or for 45 minutes at our Bible Study Group once a week. The commission here is a commandment to keep Jesus as Lord of our individual, family, work, friendship and church lives all the time.

Exodus 20:1-3 --- And God spoke all these words: “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me.” Life with God is not a popularity contest between Jesus and all the other stuff in our lives --- it is either Jesus or nothing --- (“you shall”) --- Jesus will NOT compete with football, art museums, fashion and TV shows, etc. Make your choice – accept your commissioning as a disciple of Jesus or stop playing games with your allegiance. God knows what you worship. So, does everyone else.

Continue to Focus on Joy --- Once you make the Lordship choice for Jesus, instead of all the other competing things for your allegiance...YOU ALSO GET THE JOY...right away.

Continue to Focus on your Position In Christ --- “sat down at the right hand” --- That is where Jesus is; The Ultimate Lord, and he is in heaven. And that is where you are “seated”, among all the saints that have gone before you and all the saints that are now living on earth. Remember: YOU, as believers in Jesus, are Saints (that are in a sin-recovery-program), NOT sinners! Galatians 2:20 --- I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son. Romans 8:1, 2 --- There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. We need to stop living defeated lives and start to live the life of victory and triumph that Christ has already given us to live, by and through his resurrection. **Stop saying, “I can’t” and start saying, “Christ will, through me!”**

Continue In Faith and Hope as you live your life of Service --- “I, Paul, have become a servant.” Paul did not become a servant of an old, beaten-down religious ideal, statue or ritual. Paul became a servant of the living, resurrected and powerful Lord. We all have the same commission - to serve the Living Christ Jesus right here in our communities and through our church and individual ministries. **Now is not the time to continue inactivity, now is the time to plan ahead, so we are ready as the Commonwealth safely opens up.**

I fully expect to get a lot of your calls! Pastor Jim 313-460-8636