

What Is a Christian 17 Christian Is a Temple

by James K. Boswell

The sermon emphasizes the importance of recognizing ourselves as temples of the Holy Spirit and living out our faith through willing service to God in everyday life.

Duration: 49:19

Scripture: Exodus 4:2, Exodus 24:2, 1 Chronicles 29:2, 1 Chronicles 29:5, Matthew 6:33, Romans 1:14-15

Topics: "Christian Living", "Spiritual Dedication"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker focuses on the theme of preparation and dedication to the Lord. He references 1 Chronicles 29:2, where King David expresses his commitment to preparing with all his might and setting his affection on the Lord. The speaker emphasizes that when we prepare wholeheartedly and center our affection on God, we can expect to receive blessings and provisions from Him. He then connects this idea to Exodus 4:2, where God asks Moses what is in his hand, highlighting the importance of using our hands and other body parts to serve the Lord. The speaker concludes by emphasizing the importance of fellowship and love among believers, as Jesus commanded us to love one another as a sign of discipleship.

Transcript

Through your joy in heaven, you're here again this morning, and we do trust the Lord will continue to bless you. You have been entering into the singing, and you've been singing so wonderfully well. And I believe you've meant that from your heart, you've been singing peace.

Another joy knowing it is well with ourselves. Now we're going to continue our theme this morning, and the body, the temple of the Holy Spirit. Remember that as Christians, we are the child of God, the heir of God, redeemed by His precious blood, so we're no longer our own, we belong to Him.

Then remember we are an influence, we are soldiers, and now we are temples. Another joy being the temple of the Holy Spirit. Then it says in 1 Corinthians 6, verses 19 and 20, What know ye not, your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost, which is in you, which you have of God, you're not your own, for ye are bought for the price.

Therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God. So recognizing this fact this morning, what an honor, what a privilege, yet one will remember himself. Oh, to recognize his presence, and to respect his person, and to receive his power.

Our beloved brethren, this morning in thanksgiving and in prayer, reminded us that as we yield our lives entirely to the Lord, so he controls us, so he empowers us, and he energizes us day by day. In ourselves we cannot live this Christian life, but thank God. It's not my trial, it's the great joy of reckoning.

For that, before your heart, let us read back again to the Old Testament. We've been thinking of the temple of tongues. Last night we thought of the mind.

This morning I want to finish this theme, if I may, on the palms, our hands. 1 Chronicles 29, and verse number 2. You look at verse number 1, right in the middle of the verse. For my son, whom alone God has chosen, is yet young and tender, and the work is great.

Now, verse 2. Now I have prepared with all my might. Verse number 3. Moreover, because I sent my affection to. Verse 3, the middle of the verse.

I have given to. Three thoughts. I have prepared with all my might.

I have sent my affection to. Then I have given to. That is always the outcome, that when we prepare with all our might, and our affection is centered, without any shadow of a doubt there shall be the giving.

Now that takes me straight away to verse 5. The very last sentence. Who then is willing to consecrate his service this day unto the Lord? Now, you've got a margin in your Bible, know this. Against the word to consecrate, you have the words to fill his hand.

To fill his hand. Keep your finger there and go back with me for a moment, will you? To Exodus and verse chapter 24 and verse number 2. Exodus 4 and verse number 2. Remember how the God of Jehovah said to Moses, What is that in thine hand? What is that in thine hand? Now let's go back to 1 Chronicles 29. Now remember, we're looking at the various members of our body, as those to be controlled by the Lord.

To know him thinking through our mind, willing through our will, looking with compassion out through our eyes, and now this morning working through our hands. What is that in thine hand? Now some people have got the idea that when they surrender their whole life to the Lord, he ought to take over it alive, they're going to descend to some far off land. Well, he may do that.

But that's not right. Put it into his hand, and he through your hand and through your mind, he's going to use that. Mrs. Billy Green, if I may be allowed to refer to that, dear sisters, has over the kitchen sink these words, Divine service conducted here three times daily.

Where? At the kitchen sink. Now it's a wonderful thing, my friend, to be warping term of food. But I want you to recognize, dear child of God, your work at the kitchen sink, the work in the office, the work as the gardener, the handyman.

Remember, Brother Lawrence, in practicing the presence of Christ, he was just as happy, my friend, washing up the pots and pans there, that I'm referring to the monk, who yielded his whole life to the Lord, as he was there in the sanctuary in prayer, as he stood there washing up the dishes at the kitchen sink. He was just so conscious. He practiced the presence.

You remember, too, when David recognized the Lord's presence with him. It says, And David behaved himself wisely, yea, more wisely. And as we, day by day, seek to practice and acknowledge the Lord, it brings a corresponding necessary.

But remember, you can do that work. First of all, know this. I would suggest to some of you right here, that if he is not Lord of all, then he is not Lord at all.

Now, you think that's not true. Sometimes we sing about him as Lord, we preach about him, we pray about him, we talk about him as Lord. But my friend, he must be Lord over every compartment.

He must be the light of our lives. Of all ten thousand, he alone is the worthy one. Now, remember, beloved, how God blessed David.

And David blessed the Lord. And notice now, our hands held by the Lord himself, and all for his own glory. Notice the expression here.

It is personal. Who? Notice the expression. Who? The service is a personal service.

Then notice the next part here. Then, the service is pressing. Not only is it personal, but this is pressing.

Who? Them. Now, I won't forget all about that day, in connection with the building of that wonderful building, the temple. Now, I won't forget all about Solomon, so young and tender.

And he thought the works so vast and so great. Remember, he asked the Lord for an understanding. And the Lord gave him an understanding heart.

He gave him wisdom. He gave him riches. He gave him health.

He gave him more than he asked for. Now, God is a giving God. He gives us lavishly all things to be enjoyed.

And so, beloved, this morning, let us just think of this little chapel and part of the palms. What a favorite people we really are, just congenial surroundings. And just forget all about one another for a short moment.

And just hear the Lord saying to you, through the chosen channel, and please, the blue side of the channel, forget all about him. And just hear the Lord saying to you and to me, who? Them. Now, remember this is personal and remember this is pressing.

And the Spirit's pressing upon your heart. Now, go to the next word. Who then is willing? It's in the present tense.

Is willing. And so the thought here is not only personal and pressing, but it is possible. It is possible.

The Lord's service is personal. The Lord's service is pressing. And the Lord's service is possible.

It is possible for you, my brother, for you, my sister, for each one of us here this morning. The Lord will take your fear for you. Who then is willing to consecrate? Now, notice the word is not.

Isn't that wonderful? Doesn't that do something in your heart? Oh, my friends, we can only recognize the treasure. Yes, the word is precious. I'm thinking of that verse in Romans chapter 1, verse number 15.

Don't read it to me. I'll read it to you if I may. It says these words, So as much as in me is, I am ready.

Then he says in verse 15, He says, I am ready of Jesus Christ. Now, remember we're all in this. Some of us have been called to leave the serving of tables and give our time to the word and to prayer and to the ministry but all of us are in this because we're born again by the Holy Spirit.

That may be so and God may not have called us to this particular ministry. I'm thinking of that wonderful scripture in Philippians chapter 1 where it says in verse number 5, Now, that does not mean going on as Paul said in those scriptures about your fellowship in the gospel. Each one is a living, fruitful, and because we've got life, now you say, but how can I? Let me suggest three ways to you.

Verse number 3, in that same chapter, Do you thank God for your life? Even for that one that rubs you off the wrong way. And see how Paul prayed. And he prayed for the life.

We can still be thanking God when I'm marrying people. And that's the most pure of meetings. And then I suggest them to say two or three.

You can claim two garments in my name. It's usually the man that says that. I'm sorry.

You see, you've got to remember your gentleness will make you great. And if it's just a clash of personality, then for God's sake, say, I'm sorry, dear. If it's something doctrinal, something touching the personal will of the Lord Jesus Christ, His deity, don't give an inch.

But if it's just a clash of personality, even though you're in the right, you'll take the wrong place. He said a wrongfully... Oh, no. How many Christians get on one another's nerves? We have Paul in their heart and Paul had them in his heart.

Isn't that a beautiful blending now? You hear my... Get that? Faith. Faith always inspires... in view of the day. All in view of Jesus Christ.

Now, who then is willing to... His service... The service is practical. Now, let me finish with these words, please. His service... And notice how willing my friends do this.

This unto the Lord. It's part of our... Let me just go back over these wonderful p's. It is personal.

It is pressing. It is possible. It is precious.

It is practical. It is present. Faith, it is unto the Lord.

I love this. And then verse number six. The two last words.

Offer willingly unto the Lord. Verse number nine. Then the people rejoiced.

For that they offered willingly. They called with a perfect heart. They offered willingly unto the Lord.

Now, verse 13. Now therefore, our God, we thank thee and praise thy glorious name. For all things come of thee.

And notice this now. He's already purchased with his own blood. 17.

I like this. I know also, my God, that thou triest the heart and hast pleasure in uprightness. As for me... Now, this is a personal matter.

As for me and the uprightness of my heart, I have willingly offered all. And I've seen with joy thy people which are present here at parts of the ponds to offer willingly unto thee. Isn't that just wonderful? Oh, does it not do something in your heart and my heart? Does it not warm the cockles of your heart? Eh? Doesn't it do something inside and draw you up to himself and you look upon him from your very heart? Then thou shalt ever... This is very important.

Then it was said, I will walk before... So how did you know? He said, well, you'll by his walk. Well, you'll by his walk. Yes.

Written by a namesake of my wife, Auntie Gordon. This Bible I carry is bound in the best sealed skin and with good lining, the best binding for hard wear. The people want the Bible bound in shoe leather.

When we trade our daily walk, we become an illustrated copy of the Bible. The greatest revival ever known with utmost reference, let me say, that our Lord Jesus was to come and walk around in our shoes and live inside our garments and touch man through us. As I read it again this morning and I jot it down by the year 1915, my heart was challenged.

I preached it, but do I know it? I preach it, but do I practice it? I preach in the office, it's Christ in shoe leather. It's Christ standing before that class in the college or in the school. It's Christ in the home, Christ in the hospital, Christ walking around in shoe leather.

That's the best Bible in the world. See, they're not reading their Bible today. They're reading you.

And they're reading me. They're real. We have a father here written by another group of Scotsmen called John Macbeth.

In Jesus was profound, perpetual joy. That my joy might remain in you and that your joy may be full. It is a personal provision.

My joy in you. It is not the joy of circumstances. It is not the joy of money.

For Jesus was poor. It is not the joy of youth because youth had passed away as it always will. It is not the joy of summer because summer will not last.

But the joy of a life at rest in God's love. Of a life at peace in God's will. Of a life at work in God's purpose.

It is perfect joy. My joy in you. It is a permanent possession.

Now this joy, this peace, this love is not something apart from Christ. It is all these to you and to me. Not I, but Christ that liveth in me.

These are thrilling thoughts in my heart. I must hurry. Then it comes down to the ears.

Our ears. We should be going up to our ears, eh? Then it comes down to the members of the world of tongues. Then the eye.

Then the mind. The palms, the palms of our hands. Thank God this morning He's got us on the palms of His hands.

Our names are written on the palms of His hands. Our names are written on His heart. The place of security and the... He's talking about the missionary vision.

First of all, our mind. Then our eyes must see. Then our heart must feel.

Then our ears must hear. Then our hands must work. Then our feet must go and our lips must tell.

Did you get all that? Did you get it all? Remember, my friend, the whole man of a handy urban. First of all, the heart possessed by the Spirit making real in us the life of the Lord Jesus. Then what happens? Our minds will be involved.

Our eyes will see. Our heart will feel. Our ears will hear.

Our hands will work. And oh, there's so much we can do. Those hands full of His blessed holy service.

Then, beloved, our feet must go. Then our lips must tell. Go and tell of Jesus.

Now, to arise from this delightful class, may I say something? I don't know if we have experienced the Spirit of God operating, as I've done this morning. The Spirit of God is operating here today. And as I've been going down through the various members of your body and my body, in the quality of your own heart, you've been saying, Lord, take my mind.

Take my eyes. Lord, take my hands, my lips, my feet. Lord, just take every part of me.

I yield my whole life to Thee. Samuel, just one verse, because I've closed. Originally, I just started.

Isaiah chapter 50. Isaiah 50. I'll read you just these two verses, and then I'm going to close.

Then we're going to sing Andy's favorite hymn. 362. Isaiah 50, verses 4 and 5. The Lord has given me the tongue of the larinade.

I should know how to speak a word in speech, for him that is weary. Notice this now. He awakens morning by morning.

He awakens my ear to hear as the larinade. The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, neither turned my way back. How had he got the tongue of the larinade? Because his ear was opened morning by morning.

We want to be able to speak a word to those who are weary of warring seasons. Just a word of cheer, a word of comfort, a word of encouragement. Maybe the word of correction.

Maybe the word of rebuke. Might they all be in love? Why? Because the Lord is spirit of all. The Hebrew servant, his ear was bored through.

And here the Bible says, it says to God, Jehovah's perfect servant, my ear hast thou digged. His ear was bored through. His ear was opened to the voice of Jehovah.

Maybe early in the morning, before we hear any other voice, hear the voice of our adorable Lord Jesus through the Holy Scripture. Before we see any other face, may we see the face of our beloved Lord Jesus. O my friends, it is vital.

We too shall have the tongue of the larinade. The evilspeak of warring seasons will go really far away before any other voice. May God help us to come to this place of recognizing the heart, the mind, the eyes, the ears, the hands, the legs, the voice.

Are they all at his disposal to be taken up and used for his own glory. Into thy hands, Lord, into thy hands. Take me and mill me as a potter handles the clay.

Make me a vessel fit for thy service. Cleanse me and fill me and use me today. In number 362.

We'll go on from this this evening, my friends. The theme will be the instrument. The Christian as an instrument.

Be much in prayer about this meeting. We'll be in DC. God's hand moving in us each one.

362. Friends, with the hammer goes. Will you please rise to your feet? I'm not saying that to you now.

I'm just trusting your heart before the law of my heart. It's very wonderful. Rise to your feet.

You can do that in our hearts. Clean lips for witnessing. Clean feet for walking.

Clean hands for working. And so this morning, we yield to the whole life and fill and control and operate through us in all thy mighty power through Jesus Christ.

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