



“The Deepest Things Haven’t Changed” **World Vision Chapel, 11/16/16 Rev. Bill Haley, Coracle**

On November 9th: “REGARDLESS of the outcome of the election, I expected this to be a day of mentally disciplining myself to focus on King Jesus, joyfully focusing on the Kingdom of God that is here, near, and coming, celebrating that the Christian’s (and my) primary citizenship is not American because it is not of this world (Phil. 3.20). These things set my identity, govern my calling, and are a deep well-spring of joy and passion. Now that we have a new president, these indeed will be the focus of my mind, heart, prayers, and praises today. REGARDLESS of how we feel today in any direction, these truths for the Christian must govern and give rise to our dominant emotions, which today like any other day should be hope and joy manifesting itself in love. And for myself, my message and work will be the same as it’s been well over two decades now. I might even fire up Handel’s Hallelujah Chorus, taken from Rev. 11.15 ““The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he shall reign forever and ever.” Amen! Praise God! Back to work...hope and joy, manifesting itself in love.”

IDENTITY: Who we are

Citizens of Heaven:

Philippians 3.20 “But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, 21 who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Beloved of God:

1 John 3.1 “ See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.”

“‘You are the Beloved’—My only desire to is to make these words reverberate in every corner of your Being.” Henri Nouwen

Saved for Eternal Life (starting now!):

Luke 10:19 “Behold, I have given you authority to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall hurt you. 20 Nevertheless, do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

John 10.10 “The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.”

VOCATION: Our calling

Agents of the Kingdom of God

Luke 10.8 Whenever you enter a town and they receive you, eat what is set before you. 9 Heal the sick in it and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.'

Being the Body of Jesus in the world

1 Corinthians 12.27 "You are Christ's body—that's who you are! You must never forget this." (Message)

Our Deepest Vocation: Love

Corinthians 13. 1 "If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. 2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing "

1 John 4:7 Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. 8 Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

"If we have been created in the image of God, then we have been created to love, because God is love." Mother Teresa

ACTION: What we are to do, always

Rejoice! And pray...:

1 Thessalonians 5:16 Rejoice always, 17 pray without ceasing, 18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

Philippians 4:4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. 5 Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; 6 do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Serve the needy

Matthew 25.34 Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. 35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ... 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

Everything!

1 Corinthians 15.58 Therefore, my beloved brothers and sisters, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

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