

SERIES: URGENT WORDS FOR URGENT TIMES

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, September 16-17, 2023

SERMON: Predictions for an Urgent Future

SCRIPTURE: 1 Corinthians 2:14 – 3:9 NIV

[2:14] The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

[15] The person with the Spirit makes judgments about all things, but such a person is not subject to merely human judgments,

[16] for, "Who has known the mind of the Lord so as to instruct him?" But we have the mind of Christ.

[3:1] Brothers and sisters, I could not address you as people who live by the Spirit but as people who are still worldly—mere infants in Christ.

[2] I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready.

[3] You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere humans?

[4] For when one says, "I follow Paul," and another, "I follow Apollos," are you not mere human beings?

[5] What, after all, is Apollos? And what is Paul? Only servants, through whom you came to believe—as the Lord has assigned to each his task.

[6] I planted the seed, Apollos watered it, but God has been making it grow.

[7] So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow.

[8] The one who plants and the one who waters have one purpose, and they will each be rewarded according to their own labor.

[9] For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building.

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Four predictions for our urgent future ...

- One job in great demand in the future will be _____ young men _____ to sports betting.
- The church will more and more be seen as a _____ for the needy of _____.
- Prejudice and persecution toward the church will be _____.
- Christ and the power of His resurrection will be more _____ than at any time in our lives.

For these reasons, we must understand ourselves. Do you understand who you are in relation to Christ?

1. The _____ person - unspiritual, lost, unregenerated (v2.14).
 - Psuchikos (Greek) = “person _____ the Spirit”.
2. The _____ Christian – worldly, fleshly, infants.
 - Sarkikos (Greek) = “fleshly”.
 - These are “babes”. They have not _____ or _____.
 - _____.
3. The _____ follower of Christ (servants, ministers).
 - Diakonai (Greek) = “_____”.
 - These minister and serve. They place _____ over _____.
 - _____.

Lagniappe

*Looking at the **ANCHORED** campaign*

Eighteen months ago, we began a three-year capital campaign called "**ANCHORED**". We wanted to emphasize that we are anchored in Christ and that He is our hope for today and for the future.

At that time the church committed to give \$4.4 million for several capital improvements to the church. These were:

- purchase the 15.46 acres adjoining the west side of the church property along Highway 1085;
- renovate Central Hall, the auditorium that was used as our worship center when we moved to this location in 2001;
- make limited renovations to the ROC (where our students meet) and to our Special Friends area;
- as well as strengthening our other campuses.

We have accomplished parts of these except for the renovation of Central Hall. We have already started moving forward on the planning of that renovation and hope the work will begin shortly.

Since the pledging of the \$4.4 million we have received \$2.177 million to date, which is on target to receive all of the \$4.4 million within the pledge time period.

I want to encourage you in what you have done to better equip this campus for outreach and ministry.

Most capital campaigns do not meet their goals in the allotted time. It looks as if we will be the exception to that rule. I cannot tell you how thankful I am for you, your generosity, and your faithfulness to the Lord and His church.

May God continue to bless us as we continue to serve Him.

Waylon