

Sermon Notes (Dec. 17) "Die Grundstimmung des Christen"
Three Foundational Sentiments of the Christian
Joy – Prayer – Thanksgiving
1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

(Note: The German "die Grundstimmung des Christian" is the term used by Dr. R.C.H. Lenski, a well known Lutheran New Testament scholar. Lenski wrote that "the trio belongs together: joy-prayer-thanks, these three are well called *die Grundstimmung des Christen*." There are a variety of translations for this term *Grundstimmung*, "prevailing mood, atmosphere, basic mood, underlying sentiment, undertone, overall atmosphere, fundamental mood, general sentiment, etc.")

I. What is the work of the Holy Spirit in every Christian's Life?

_____ always!

- No condition required. All conditions included.
- "...as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, yet possessing everything." 2 Corinthians 6:10

_____ with ceasing!

- Not ceaseless formal prayers so that we do nothing else, like living in a monastery or convent, but...

"The "always" of Jesus and this "ceaselessly" = that we are always to be fit and ready for an approach to God in worshipful praying....The heart which is ever attuned to God as being his child turns to God as well in its secret thoughts as in its many utterances." (Lenski)

In everything giving _____ !

- Again, no condition is required to give thanks. All conditions are included.
- Giving thanks "in connection with everything." Acts 4:1-31; 5:17-42

and when they had called in the apostles, they beat them and charged them not to speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. Then they left the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer dishonor for the name. And every day, in the temple and from house to house, they did not cease teaching and preaching that the Christ is Jesus. Acts 5:38-4

II. God's _____ in Christ for us...

These three are the Holy Spirit's _____ in us.

To stop joy, prayer and thanks is to quench the Holy Spirit. Period.

Also,

Do not _____ (despise) teaching from God's Word. ("prophecy")

This is not "spiritual gifts" prophecy, but "regular" teaching and preaching from the Bible.

If we do not know God's Word, how can we know what to be joyful about, or pray about, or give thanks about?

THUS,

Good teaching from God's Word, hold _____ !

Bad teaching from God's Word, throw _____ !

III. God's grace and power will complete His _____ in us (in all parts of us) and keep us ready for Jesus!

Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely,

and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it. 1 Thessalonians 5:23-24