Calvary Chapel Living Water

Who Is Commanding Your Life?

2 Thessalonians 3:1-18

**Vs. 1** When people would walk through the *Metropolitan Tabernacle*, *Spurgeon* would take them to the basement prayer room where people were always on their knees interceding for the church.  Then *Spurgeon* would declare, *"Here is the powerhouse of this church."*  That statement is backed by the amazing number of sermons that Spurgeon preached on prayer.

**Vs. 4**  The word “command” means a military order passed down from a superior officer. (used in verse 4, 6, 10, 12)

Q – Is Christ your Superior Officer?

2 Timothy 2:3-4

**3**You therefore must endure hardship as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. **4**No one engaged in warfare entangles himself with the affairs of *this* life, that he may please him who enlisted him as a soldier.

Q – Do you want to please Him? Do you love Him?

John 14:15

**15**“If you love Me, keep My commandments.

**Vs. 15**  Various levels of church discipline:

1. Personal differences between Christians (Matthew 18:15-18; Philippians 4:1-3).

2. Doctrinal error (2 Timothy 2:23-26; Titus 1:10-14; Romans 16:17-18; 2 Timothy 2:18; 2 John 9).

3. A believer overtaken by sin (Galatians 6:1-3).

4. A repeating troublemaker (Titus 3:10-11).

5. Open immorality (1 Corinthians 5; 2 Corinthians 2:6-11).

6. In the case of the “lazy saints,” Paul told the believers to exhort them, warn them, and if they did repent, withdraw intimate fellowship from them (vs. 14-15).

**Vs. 18**  Q – Are you part of the peace of the church or are you part of the war in church?

Joshua 5:13-15

The Commander of the Army of the Lord

**13**And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, “*Are* You for us or for our adversaries?”

**14**So He said, “No, but *as* Commander of the army of the Lord I have now come.”

And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, “What does my Lord say to His servant?”

**15**Then the Commander of the Lord’s army said to Joshua, “Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand *is* holy.” And Joshua did so.

Matthew 18:15-18

**15**“Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. **16**But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that ‘by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.’[a] **17**And if he refuses to hear them, tell *it* to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.

**18**“Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.

Philippians 4:1-3

**4**Therefore, my beloved and longed-for brethren, my joy and crown, so stand fast in the Lord, beloved.

Be United, Joyful, and in Prayer

**2**I implore Euodia and I implore Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. **3**And[a] I urge you also, true companion, help these women who labored with me in the gospel, with Clement also, and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names *are* in the Book of Life.

2 Timothy 2:23-26

**23**But avoid foolish and ignorant disputes, knowing that they generate strife. **24**And a servant of the Lord must not quarrel but be gentle to all, able to teach, patient, **25**in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth, **26**and *that* they may come to their senses *and escape* the snare of the devil, having been taken captive by him to *do* his will.

Titus 1:10-14

The Elders’ Task

**10**For there are many insubordinate, both idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision, **11**whose mouths must be stopped, who subvert whole households, teaching things which they ought not, for the sake of dishonest gain. **12**One of them, a prophet of their own, said, “Cretans *are* always liars, evil beasts, lazy gluttons.” **13**This testimony is true. Therefore rebuke them sharply, that they may be sound in the faith, **14**not giving heed to Jewish fables and commandments of men who turn from the truth.

Romans 16:17-18

Avoid Divisive Persons

**17**Now I urge you, brethren, note those who cause divisions and offenses, contrary to the doctrine which you learned, and avoid them. **18**For those who are such do not serve our Lord Jesus[a] Christ, but their own belly, and by smooth words and flattering speech deceive the hearts of the simple.

2 Timothy 2:18

**18**who have strayed concerning the truth, saying that the resurrection is already past; and they overthrow the faith of some.

2 John 9

**9**Whoever transgresses and does not abide in the doctrine of Christ does not have God. He who abides in the doctrine of Christ has both the Father and the Son.

Galatians 6:1-3

Bear and Share the Burdens

**6**Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who *are* spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. **2**Bear one another’s burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. **3**For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

Titus 3:10-11

**10**Reject a divisive man after the first and second admonition, **11**knowing that such a person is warped and sinning, being self-condemned.

1 Corinthians 5:4-5

**4**In the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, when you are gathered together, along with my spirit, with the power of our Lord Jesus Christ, **5**deliver such a one to Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that his spirit may be saved in the day of the Lord Jesus.

2 Corinthians 2:6-11

**6**This punishment which *was inflicted* by the majority *is* sufficient for such a man, **7**so that, on the contrary, you *ought* rather to forgive and comfort *him*, lest perhaps such a one be swallowed up with too much sorrow. **8**Therefore I urge you to reaffirm *your* love to him. **9**For to this end I also wrote, that I might put you to the test, whether you are obedient in all things. **10**Now whom you forgive anything, I also *forgive*. For if indeed I have forgiven anything, I have forgiven that one for your sakes in the presence of Christ, **11**lest Satan should take advantage of us; for we are not ignorant of his devices.